

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
Do you agree with the  
austerity measures being  
proposed by the Fitial  
administration?

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## INSIDE



### Chinatown Fire

A fire breaks out at a house in Chinatown around 2pm but no one is injured.

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### iPad Craze

Now that the iPad is in the hands of early adopters, the hard work for Apple Inc. begins.

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### Titan Star

Sam Worthington goes from part-human, part-alien to half-human, half-god.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

## 'US high court ruling on plea bargains has major effect for NMI'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The U.S. Supreme Court's recent ruling

on the need for criminal defense lawyers to advise their clients of potential immigration consequences of plea agreements is very significant for the CNMI, accord-

ing to attorney Mark Hanson.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, Hanson said the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the *Padilla v. Ken-*

tucky case basically reverses local court decisions that the CNMI Supreme Court had upheld.

See **HIGH COURT** on Page 4

## Illegal fireworks destroyed

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

**T**hick plumes of smoke, coupled with fireworks explosions, blanketed an area near the Marpi landfill yesterday afternoon after the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives disposed of close to 1,000 lbs of hazardous illegal explosives devices shipped from China to Saipan.

See **FIREWORKS** on Page 4

## Decision on Fernandez stalled anew

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

The Board of Regents once again failed to render a final decision on the fate of suspended North-

ern Marianas College president of Dr. Carmen Fernandez after it postponed the embattled official's hearing yesterday.

Fernandez appeared at the  
See **DECISION** on Page 4

A large cloud billows over an area near the Marpi landfill yesterday afternoon with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' disposal of hazardous illegal explosives devices. Inset shows the first few seconds of yesterday's operation.



» Hundreds more  
collected during  
the weekend

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## TILAPIA GROWING

Bill Joseph, aquaculture specialist at the Northern Marianas College's Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service, shows eight visiting students from Japan the tilapia raised in NMC-CREES' aquaculture facilities. The visiting students stopped by the NMC-CREES' aquaculture facilities during a tour of the NMC Saipan campus, which was organized by NMC's Community Development Institute. The junior high school students, who are also members of the Sesame Club in their native Japan, were participating in the Home Stay Program for the first time on Saipan. The Home Stay Program allows students from other countries to live with local families in an effort to learn about the culture and language of the country, or region. The students also visited other NMC offices, and later participated in a short English language course conducted by CDI, a program under the Division of Community Programs and Services.

NMC



## FY11 budget plan eyed by mid-May

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

House Ways and Means Committee chair Ramon S. Basa (Cov-Saipan)

said yesterday that a series of budget meetings with departments and agencies will begin as early as next week and a budget bill may be drafted by middle of May, as lawmakers

begin poring over Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's \$132 million budget submission for Fiscal Year 2011.

"Our job is to look at the govern-

See **BUDGET** on Page 4

**CADA: 84 percent increase in March vehicle sales. PAGE 6**  
**BOE rebut's Fitial's 'tall tale' with list of funding. PAGE 8**



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# Local

## 'Indirect cost' helps PSS cover budget shortfall

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

To make up for shortfalls in its local budget, the Public School System has been dipping into a not-so-well-known source of funding called "indirect cost" account, which reaches nearly a million every year.

"Indirect costs" are payments made by the federal government to PSS for the processing of documents related to federal programs.

This year, PSS recorded a little over \$800,000 in indirect cost, according to Tim Thornburgh, PSS federal programs officer. He said about \$750,000 of

the amount was used to pay for the salaries of most personnel working on federal programs at the central office.

PSS also taps into the same funding account to pay for its monthly central office rental, Thornburgh said.

A portion also pays for PSS' annual financial audit, he added.

### Other uses

Prior to meeting with Thornburgh yesterday, BOE member Herman T. Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* that the board had also tapped \$50,000 from the fund to pay for official board travels and professional development

purposes.

Although the board has its own budget, Guerrero said this is not enough to cover the board's expenses.

He initially expressed belief that the indirect cost account amounts to over a \$1 million or less than \$2 million in a given year.

In the past, Guerrero said, a large portion of the account was used to hire teacher aides for the Head Start program.

The Fitial administration had proposed that PSS should remit the indirect cost to the general fund and the administration will process whatever PSS needs from that account, according

to PSS financial consultant Ed Tenorio yesterday.

Tenorio and Thornburgh said they disagreed with this as this may complicate matters for PSS.

Guerrero said the money should stay with PSS because it is the agency that applied for these federal monies.

"Why should it go to the general fund? It stays with PSS because we applied for those funds and it is helping us to pay for personnel," he said.

If the indirect cost is taken from PSS, Guerrero said they will have to lay off personnel paid under the account.

He cited the account's help when PSS built new schools in early 2000. The funds were used to hire teachers and personnel.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority  
*Tourism is everybody's business.*



**1st Hunt for Managaha Island**  
May 16, 2010

The first ever **Hunt for Managaha Island** is set for May 16, 2010, featuring a swim course from the white sand beaches of Garapan to the award-winning island Managaha across the lagoon. The event, organized by the **Marianas Visitors Authority** and **KFC Triathlon Club** of Japan, is another in a series of sports events by the MVA aimed at attracting visitors and media to this island resort destination.

Managaha is widely recognized in Japan, winning consecutive awards at Japan's annual Marine Diving Fair as Best Snorkeling site. Managaha has also garnered recognition in Japan as Best Beach and was among the top three must-see beaches in 2009 on Yahoo Travel Japan.

Hunt for Managaha Island now joins June's **Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament** in a growing repertoire of events organized by the MVA to capitalize on the island's pristine waters and clearly positive international fame.



This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

## 1st Annual Tinian Mayor's Perpetual Cup

### GOLF TOURNAMENT

**Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort**  
**Saturday, April 10, 2010**  
**Show Time 10AM**  
**Tee Time 11AM-Shot Gun Start**  
**DOUBLE PEORIA**

PRIZE	ENTRY FEE \$99.00
CHAMPION : \$500.00 cash and trophy	<b>Inclusive</b> Green Fee, Beverage at Course, Award's Dinner at Coral Ocean Point Resort after the games. (Pool Side)
1st Runner Up : \$300.00 cash and trophy	
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## Teen allegedly breaks into ex-girlfriend's house

Police arrested a teenager who allegedly forced himself into his former girlfriend's bedroom in Dandan last week by breaking a window and chasing her.

Police arrested 19-year-old Bradley D. Palacios Friday afternoon for disturbing the peace, criminal trespass, criminal mischief, burglary, and assault, assault and battery, and criminal contempt of court.

A \$10,000 cash bail was initially imposed for Palacios' temporary liberty. He was set to appear yesterday afternoon for a bail hearing.

Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that a patrol police officer responded to Dandan on Wednesday afternoon after the victim reported a

disturbance at her house.

Based on the investigation, Aldan said the victim was alone at home when she heard Palacios knocking on the front door and telling her to open the door.

When the victim ignored Palacios, he called her on the phone and asked her to let him in so they could talk.

The victim told Palacios to go away because he was not supposed to be at her house in the first place. When she hung up the phone, Palacios kept knocking on the bedroom's window. After she repeatedly told him to leave, Palacios picked up a rock and hit the window.

The victim dialed 911, then locked herself inside a restaurant.

The victim later heard the bedroom window shatter and Palacios saying, "Babe! Babe! Where are you? I am cut!"

He then broke into the restaurant and told the victim he had a cut in his hand.

The victim ran outside the house, but Palacios chased and hugged her. The victim, however, struggled. Two neighbors came, but Palacios told them that everything was fine.

The victim shouted for help. Patrol Officer Juan Mendiola arrived and, after conducting an investigation, placed Palacios under arrest.

Palacios was later released, but on Friday he was served with an arrest warrant. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

## Man nabbed again for alleged sex assault of minor, contempt

A man arrested last December on Tinian for alleged sexual abuse of a minor was arrested again on Thursday for another complaint of sexual assault of a minor and for contempt of court.

Police arrested 26-year-old Geoffrey K. Cabrera in San Jose, Tinian, to face charges of sexual assault, assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and contempt of court.

At yesterday's bail hearing on Saipan, Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo imposed on Cabrera a \$10,000 cash bail for the sexual assault case and \$2,000 cash bail for the contempt of court incident.

Govendo set the preliminary hearing for April 12 at 9am.

Lawyer Vince Seman served as counsel for Cabrera. Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher appeared for the government.

Tinian Department of Public Safety police officer Joann A. Pangelinan stated in her report that they received a complaint last March 29 from a woman who alleged that Cabrera touched her daughter's buttock twice.

Pangelinan said Cabrera later texted the mother to apologize.

In the contempt of court case, Pangelinan said that, on Dec. 22, 2009, Cabrera was charged with sexual assault of

a minor and as a condition of bail, Superior Court associate judge Perry Inos ordered him to surrender his passport and other travel documents.

Pangelinan learned from the Saipan Passport Office that Cabrera applied for a replacement passport and that he was issued one.

Pangelinan said Cabrera concealed his new passport in direct violation of the bail order. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

## IMMIGRATION LAW

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**Maya B. Kara**

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# Mom's Kitchen

## WEEKLY MENU

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**2 Choice**  
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**3 Choice**  
**\$500**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>A</b>	Grilled Baby Ribs	Beef Tata	Beef Potato with Tomato	Chamorro Beef Steak	Fried Spicy Tilapia
<b>B</b>	Spicy Chicken Wings	Kadun Pika	Shrimp with Coconut Milk	Eskabeche	Chicken Adobo
<b>C</b>	Stir Fry Vegetables w/ Pork	Banana Heart w/ Coconut Milk	Chop Suey	Fried Chicken	B.B.Q. Squid
<b>D</b>	Seafood Pancit	Hamburger Spaghetti	Yaki-Udon	Harusame Salad	Seafood Spaghetti
<b>E</b>	Shoanai	Fry Flute	Shanghai Lumpia	Dumpling	Tuna Lumpia
<b>Soup</b>	Potato Chowder	Wonton Soup	Chicken Noodle Soup	Sotanghon Soup	Sofa de Abo

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#### Japanese Daily Lunch

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Monday to Saturday  
11:00 am – 2:00pm

**\$25.00 adult & \$12.50 child**

**Minami Restaurant**



#### Sunday Brunch

*Treat the whole family to a variety of international cuisine and enjoy bottomless draft beer, juices, sodas and sparkling wine.*

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11:00 am – 2:00pm

**\$38.00 adult & \$19.00 child**

**Minami Restaurant**



#### Chinese Dinner Buffet

*Come and Enjoy East meets West. Enjoy a variety of Chinese Cuisine. Including all you can drink selected beer, iced-tea and sodas.*

Every Monday  
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**\$38.00 adult & \$19.00 child**

**Minami Restaurant**



#### Mediterranean Dinner Buffet

*Cruise the Mediterranean and enjoy a variety of traditional cuisine from Morocco, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Italy, France, and Spain. Inclusive of all you can drink draft beer, iced-tea, sodas and house wine.*

Every Tuesday  
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**\$38.00 adult & \$19.00 child**

**Minami Restaurant**



#### Fusion Mexican Dinner Buffet

*Enjoy a sumptuous Fusion Mexican Cuisine including all you can drink draft beer, margarita, iced-tea, sodas and house wine.*

Every Wednesday  
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**\$38.00 adult & \$19.00 child**

**Minami Restaurant**



#### Fusion Indian Dinner Buffet

*Experience a variety of Indian Cuisines including bottomless draft beer, mazala Indian tea, iced-tea, sodas and house wine.*

Every Thursday  
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**\$38.00 adult & \$19.00 child**

**Minami Restaurant**



#### Seafood Dinner Buffet

*Enjoy a variety of Seafood delicacy such as Oysters, Mussels, Shrimp, and much more. Including all you can drink selected beer, iced-tea, and sodas.*

Every Friday  
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

**\$38.00 adult & \$19.00 child**

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*Come and enjoy a delightful selection of traditional Japanese Cuisine including all you can drink selected beer, iced-tea, sodas and house wine. Serving Fresh Sushi Everyday.*

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## Amateur radio licensing exams on Friday

The next VE session offered by W5YI-VE sponsored by MDX Amateur Radio Club will be on April 9, from 6pm to 8pm.

It will be held at the training room of

the American Red Cross NMI Chapter along Airport Road.

For more information, contact Bong Malasarte (WH0X) at 287-5525 or e-mail at mdx@mdx-radio.net

Walk-ins will be accepted, although pre-registration is encouraged. Those in the technician class who want an upgrade must bring the original and one photocopy of their FCC license and any applicable CSCEs.

A valid ID will also be required. If you do not have a photo ID, bring two ID forms, at least one of which shows your current mailing address. The 2010 exam fee is \$14 for all elements.

The exam session will be admin-

istered by the MDX Amateur Radio Club volunteer examiner under the W5YI volunteer coordinator.

VE's wanting to assist in the exams should bring their VE ID's. Only VE's with valid ID are allowed inside the examination session. **(MDX)**

## BUDGET

From Page 1

nor's proposal and see if the figures are correct. We can make changes as we see fit but we will do it within the approved amount," Basa told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Basa said the committee will be calling on acting Finance Secretary Robert Schrack next week to answer questions about the Fitial administration's budget submission on Monday.

This will be followed by meetings with some 14 departments and agencies on their budget. Some meetings will also be held on Rota and Tinian.

Fitial said the total amount of funding requested by departments and activities totaled \$197,842,416, exceeding the projected available resources by more than \$65 million.

Basa said once agencies and departments come up to the Legislature, the \$132 million budget ceiling may again be exceeded but he said the commit-

tee will do a diligent job of balancing agencies' needs with the available resources.

"We will hold the meetings in a two-week span, from late April to early May. We are hoping to have the budget bill by middle of May. Hopefully the House and Senate could agree on the budget bill so we could have a balanced and timely passed budget or the government will shut down," said Basa, referring to a constitutional amendment mandating closure of non-essential government services if there is no balanced budget passed by the start of the new fiscal year.

The estimated gross budgetary resource for FY 2011, which begins on Oct. 1, 2010 and ends on Sept. 31, 2011, is \$149.371 million.

Of this amount, \$132.565 million is available for appropriations, including the salaries of 3,656 government employees.

The \$132.565 million budget is \$4.765 million or 3.5 percent less than the FY 2010 mid-year revised resource-

es estimate of some \$137.33 million.

Under Fitial's budget plan, the Judicial Branch will get \$2,972,847, while the Legislature will get \$4,219,553.

The Executive Branch, meanwhile, is budgeted \$64,738,958, over \$7 million of which is for the Office of the Governor alone.

Fitial submitted a \$6,256,080 budget for the Rota Municipality, \$5,792,777 for the Tinian Municipality, \$1,047,553 for the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipalities, \$539,607 for boards and commissions, \$11,350,980 for independent programs, and \$41,154,088 for other programs.

### 'Set aside politics'

Basa called on lawmakers to "set aside politics" and pass the austerity measure not only for the remainder of FY 2010 but also for FY 2011.

Basa's austerity bill, which is now at the Senate, seeks to reduce government work hours to 70 instead of 80 per pay period. The bill seeks to cut government costs by some \$4.55 million.

"We were already forewarned that by April 23, if nothing happens, there's a likelihood of payless paydays and God knows, maybe worse, a lay off," he said.

The same austerity measure is needed for FY 2011, as called for by Fitial's budget submission.

Fitial said inherent in his \$132 million FY 2011 budget submission are considerations for eight cost-cutting measures and adjustments, that include a 10-hour work hour reduction per pay period, 14 unpaid legal holidays, a 25 percent cut in "all other" funds for non-essential services, and removal of all non-essential vacant and zero-funded positions.

On top of the seven adjustments and cost-cutting measures is an additional 7.5 percent reduction in the budget request.

A recent constitutional amendment requires a shutdown of non-essential government services if no budget is passed by the start of the new fiscal year, on Oct. 1, 2010.

The same amendment calls for the suspension of the governor's salary if

he fails to submit a budget proposal to the Legislature by April 1, and lawmakers' salaries would also be suspended if they fail to pass a budget before the start of the new fiscal year.

### At the Senate

Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) and other committee members held a closed-door meeting with Schrack and Budget and Management director Vicky Villagomez to talk about Basa's bill which is now at the Senate.

The Senate has set public hearings on Tinian, Rota and Saipan on the austerity bill.

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), a member of the Fiscal Affairs Committee, said yesterday that Schrack and Villagomez were encouraging senators to consider passing the austerity measure to help cut government cost.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) reiterated the need for a budget summit called to address the government's financial problems.

## DECISION

From Page 1

scheduled hearing at 2:30pm with her lawyer, Brien Sers Nicholas.

An hour earlier, though, all seven regents met to discuss the matters and, after a closed-door meeting between NMC's legal counsel John Aguon and Sers Nicholas, it was agreed that the hearing will be postponed to next Mon-

day, April 12.

Fernandez and her lawyer refused to comment when asked by reporters waiting outside the conference room.

The board was expected to hear Fernandez's side on the alleged changing of students' grades and some personnel and management issues at the college. Both the Attorney General's Office and NMC's external legal counsel, Cabot Mantanona, have already submitted separate findings on these allegations.

It was earlier disclosed that both findings bear similar results. The board has, however, refused to disclose the results to the public.

Under Fernandez's contract, she must be accorded the right to be heard on matters of questions relating to her position as president of the college. The hearing was set to comply with this provision of her contract.

Although yesterday's hearing was postponed, all seven board members

stayed and spent a few more hours in a working session with their counsel.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that members were presented possible scenarios if Fernandez is reinstated to her position and possible consequences if her contract is terminated.

The board suspended Fernandez on Jan. 12, pending the twin investigations against her. Since then, interim president Lorraine Cabrera has been running the college in her stead.

Despite her suspension, Fernandez is still being paid her salary. Her contract provides for \$80,000 in annual pay and \$800 monthly housing allowance.

Some lawmakers earlier claimed that NMC seems to be dragging its feet in Fernandez's case.

Board chair Janet H. King, however, denied this, pointing out that any delay in the decision is a result of the requirements the board needs to meet for a fair investigation against Fernandez.

## FIREWORKS

From Page 1

The operation marked ATF's first large scale disposal of hazardous illegal explosives devices in the CNMI.

J.D. Powell, the supervisory explosives enforcement officer with ATF's Explosives Technology Branch, said they disposed of smaller amounts of illegal explosive devices on Friday and Sunday, and yesterday marked the third and last disposal operation.

The amount of explosives that were destroyed totaled more than 2,200 lbs.

ATF sent 16 of its agents to Saipan for the March 31 to April 6 operation, including certified explosives specialists from the Explosives Technology

Branch in Washington, D.C.

Cheryl D. Bishop, ATF public information officer, said additional illegal explosives devices were collected during the weekend.

ATF dug up five trenches yesterday for the disposal operation. Each trench was some 25 ft. long, 5 ft. deep and 4 ft. wide. The explosive devices were dumped into the trenches, doused with diesel, and topped with cardboards and metal fencing to help contain the fireworks and the explosions.

Showing samples of the fireworks, ATF explosives enforcement officer Phil Whitley explained how dangerous the confiscated illegal explosives devices were.

One of the confiscated fountains, for example, has a legal limit of 75 grams

of explosives, but ATF found that it contained over 500 grams, enough to blow off anybody's fingers if ignited in close contact.

Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan said the presence of such illegal devices on island endangers children and adults.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Eric David said majority of the fireworks that Saipan has are illegal.

Sablan and Solid Waste Division director Juan Deleon Guerrero each pushed the remote detonation button for the actual disposal, which began around 2:30pm, sending a thick plume of smoke into the air.

A makeshift mound some 500 feet from the trenches served as the viewing area.

Besides ATF agents, also on the scene were DPS, Fire Division and DPW personnel.

ATF's operation began with an inventory and analysis of some 500 cases of illegal hazardous explosives described as clandestinely manufactured commercial grade fireworks shipped from Beihai, China to Saipan.

The bureau said the fireworks were brought to their attention through anonymous letters from island citizens, expressing safety concerns, as well as consequential inspections by Guam Customs and Quarantine and the CNMI DPS.

Many of the shipped cases of fireworks did not display the required markings mandated by both the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Many of the fireworks were also found to contain excess amounts of explosives powder well above the classification indicated on the packaging, making the devices significantly more powerful than allowed.

While ATF does not normally regulate consumer fireworks, which is the responsibility of states and territories, these particular items became subject to federal statutes and storage requirements as a result of the DOT and CPSC violations.

Due to an ongoing investigation, local and federal agents declined to name the retail businesses that brought the illegal explosives devices to Saipan. Some names were brought up during the disposal operation, but the media was asked to refrain from publishing the businesses' names at this time.

## HIGH COURT

From Page 1

Hanson said CNMI courts have earlier ruled that a defendant does not have a right to withdraw a plea agreement after learning about the immigration consequences of a guilty plea.

The U.S. Supreme Court has now ruled, however, that immigrants have a constitutional right to be told by their lawyers whether pleading guilty to a crime could lead to their deportation.

The high court's ruling extends the Constitution's Sixth Amendment guarantee of "effective assistance of counsel" in criminal cases to immigration advice, especially in cases that involve deportation.

"So it is very big for the CNMI and

particularly with federal immigration here now," Hanson said. "The U.S. Supreme Court has said that it's a constitutional right of a defendant, and that changes CNMI law. So it's very big."

Lawyers will need to pay attention to the consequences of guilty pleas because their client could potentially face removal proceedings in federal court, he added.

"And they will be going to be back to the local courts and asking the local courts to vacate their pleas to withdraw their pleas [to] avoid deportation," Hanson said.

The decision puts a new burden on lawyers to advise immigrant clients about the consequences of a guilty plea

Micronesian Legal Services Corp. stated in a blog that because the CNMI

is now under U.S. immigration laws, the consequences for aliens pleading guilty or being found guilty of crimes here will be the same as for aliens in the rest of the United States.

"Obviously, this case will mean some changes by criminal defense counsel are necessary when representing alien defendants," the MLSC blog said.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruling came in the case of Jose Padilla, who was born in Honduras. Padilla had asked the high court to throw out his 2001 guilty plea to drug charges in Kentucky, which made his deportation virtually mandatory.

Padilla, who has lived in the United States for more than 40 years as a legal permanent resident, claims that his counsel not only failed to advise him of this consequence prior to his entering

the plea, but also told him that he "did not have to worry about immigration status since he had been in the country so long."

Padilla's trial lawyer was wrong, and he now faces deportation.

Padilla appealed to the Kentucky Supreme Court, which denied his appeal. The court held that the Sixth Amendment's guarantee of effective assistance of counsel does not protect a criminal defendant from erroneous advice about deportation because it is merely a "collateral" consequence of his conviction.

The U.S. Supreme Court, however, in a March 31 decision, reversed the judgment of the Supreme Court of Kentucky, agreeing with Padilla that a constitutionally competent counsel should have advised him that his conviction for drug distribution made him

subject to automatic deportation.

"We conclude that advice regarding deportation is not categorically removed from the ambit of the Sixth Amendment right to counsel," the U.S. Supreme Court said.

In the CNMI, the Supreme Court in June 2006 reversed the Superior Court's order that granted a Chinese woman's motion to withdraw her earlier guilty plea for promoting prostitution on the grounds that she was not warned of the deportation consequences of her plea.

In reversing the trial court's decision in the case against Shuanglan Chen, the CNMI Supreme Court ruled that the due process clauses of both the U.S. and the CNMI Constitutions do not require that a defendant be advised of all possible collateral consequences of a guilty plea.



# Fire breaks out in Chinatown house

By **WALTER SUTHERLAND**  
 walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
 REPORTER

A fire broke out yesterday at a house in Chinatown around 2pm. No one was injured in the accident.

According to Florencio Cabarloc, a resident of the house, the fire started in the kitchen. Thick black smoke was seen pouring out of the house's

kitchen area.

Carbarloc, a member of one of four separate families who live in the home, claimed that his passport, jewelry, \$2,000 cash, and various household electronics and appliances were lost in the fire.

A separate, unnamed resident allegedly reported the fire to the police.

Department of Public Safety

firefighters quickly responded to the scene and controlled the blaze in around 30 minutes.

The house, located at the end of the Director Ct. road, was also the location of C&J Sign International.

Department of Public Safety Fire Division Capt. Julian Tagabuel declined to comment on any details.

The Department of Public Safety has yet to issue an official statement about the incident.

Department of Public Safety Fire Division firefighters respond to a fire that broke out in Chinatown yesterday afternoon.

WALTER SUTHERLAND



## Bumper crop for mangos this year

By **WALTER J. SUTHERLAND**  
 walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
 REPORTER

Saipan Sabalu Market Association president Isidoro Cabrera expects an abundance of Saipan mangos and carabao mangos this season, beginning at the end of April and all the way through May.

Cabrera expects between 3,000 and 4,000 mature bearing mango trees to bear fruit this season, due in large part to a dry February season that prevented the spread and growth of a fungus present in Saipan mango trees.

He said many mango trees on Saipan are infected with Anthracnose, a type of fungi that attacks hardwood species like mango trees. February rainfall that comes into contact with blooming mango trees stimulates the fungus, causing the deadly reaction. Anthracnose causes the flowers of the mango tree to dry up and fall to the ground, preventing the maturation of the fruit.

"We are lucky that we had a dry February because such conditions this year prevented the lethal Anthracnose fungus from infecting the mango yields,"

said Cabrera.

In fact, he expects so many mangos that many of them may go to waste and fall to the ground.

### What do we do?

With the expected abundance of mangos, and the option of exportation off the table, Cabrera encourages people to create their own value-added products.

"It will be better to use all of these extra mangos for something than just watch them all go to waste. People can make many different things with them such as jams, purees, juice, dehydrated mangos, pickled coco, turnovers, pies, and other baked dishes," suggests Cabrera.

"And if they don't know how to prepare these dishes, there is a food scientist at NMC-CREES who can work with them, one on one, and show people how to make these recipes for free," he added.

If anyone is interested in learning how to cook with mangos (for free), contact NMC-CREES at 234-5498.

Mango trees on Saipan begin to blossom in February, marking the start of the mango season.



Cabrera

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

#### REPROGRAMMING OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Program Year	Activity No.	Activity Type	Activity Name	Activity Status	Amount from program	Reprogram to
2007	389	Public Facilities	Rehabilitation of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School	New	\$800,000	
2007	390	Public Facilities	Northern Marianas Islands Football Association Soccer Facility	New		\$800,000
<b>Total</b>					\$800,000	\$800,000

**Note:** The Rehabilitation of the Gregorio T. Camacho (GTC) Elementary School has been fully funded and completed using Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Funds. For details of the completed project, please contact Ms. Vicky Villagomez, CIP Office, at 664-2406.

The public is invited to provide written and oral comments on the proposed reprogramming. Written comments will be accepted no later than 4:30 p.m., May 7, 2010, at the main office in Garapan, Post Office Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950. Oral comments may be relayed to Jeannie P. Mafnas at telephone number (670) 234-7670, 6866, 7689, or 9447. Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations to submit comments may also contact Jeannie P. Mafnas at the telephone numbers above for assistance.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial  
 Governor, CNMI

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Life in Motion



## CADA: 84 percent increase in March vehicle sales

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

An average of two new vehicles were sold every single day in March, compared to an average of one during the same month last year, based on latest data released yesterday by the Commonwealth Auto Dealers Association.

CADA reported selling 57 new cars, vans, trucks and sports utility vehicles in March, an almost 84-percent increase from 31 last year.

This brings to 182 the total number of new vehicles sold in the first three months of 2010, a 92-percent increase from the 95 units sold in same period in 2009.

Matthew Deets, CADA president, attributed the surge to a

combination of factors, adding that he is happy to see a continued growth in sales through the first quarter.

"Last year, there was a great deal of uncertainty in the market. With the implementation of federalization and the local government elections being finalized, there is some sense of stability now. I think there was some pent up demand because of these factors," Deets told *Saipan Tribune*. Deets is also general manager of Joeten Motors.

The three-member CADA reported selling 31 cars, 17 SUVs, seven trucks, and two vans in March.

By dealership, Microl Corp. again dominated the market with 33 new Toyotas sold in March, an almost 154-percent

increase from only 13 sold last year. Microl's year-to-date sales posted a 114-percent increase, from 43 to 92.

Joeten Motors sold 17 new units of Nissan, Ford, Honda and Kia, a 183-percent increase from only six sold in March 2009. Its year-to-date sales also rose by 140 percent, from 25 to 60.

Triple "J" Motors, however, posted a 42-percent drop in sales

in March, from 12 last year to seven this year. But for the first three months of the year, the authorized distributor of Hyundai, Mitsubishi, Isuzu, Suzuki and Mazdas reported an 11-percent increase, from 27 to 30.

Toyota Corolla was not only the top vehicle of choice, but also the top car of choice last month with 13 new units sold.

Among cars, Toyota Yaris ranked second with six units sold, followed by Kia Forte with three. Two units each of

Mazda3, Nissan Cube, Nissan Sentra and Toyota Camry got sold in March, along with one Hyundai Genesis Sd.

Nissan Rogue beat other SUVs in the local market with four units sold in March, followed by Toyota RAV4, which sold three. Two units each of Honda CR-V, Hyundai Tucson, Mazda CX7, and Toyota Highlander were also sold. CADA also sold one unit each of Ford Escape and Toyota 4 Runner.

Among trucks, the most sale-

able in March was Toyota Tacoma with four units, followed by Nissan Frontier with three.

Only Toyota Sienna, among all vans, was sold in March with two units.

CADA also sold 28 used vehicles in March, bringing to 74 the total number sold during the first three months of the year.

Joeten Motors dominates the used vehicle market with 34 units sold so far this year, followed by Microl Corp. with 21, and Triple "J" Motors with 19.

## Youth lock-in for Army Reserve's kids

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

an evening of food, swimming, games, and fun.

The "Lock-In" will be held on April 17, 2010, at the Pacific Islands Club starting at 10am. Typically, a lock-in is designed to be an overnight recreational function, but this event will end at 8pm that same day.

The Army Reserve's Child, Youth, & School Services will be celebrating April as the Month of the Military Child with a youth "Lock-In," an event that will offer participating children

The event is intended for children of Army reservists with ages 9-13. Form packages can be picked up at the U.S. Army Reserve Center.

Registration has already begun and will end on April 9, 2010.

Forty youths will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Interested participants will be added to the event roster once

their registration form, medical/health form, and parental consent/media release form are all turned in to the Army Reserve Center. Interested participants can get the forms either directly from the Army Reserve Center, via e-mail at mckeith.goff@us.army.mil, or by phone at 322-6672.

Once the forms are completed, they must be scanned and e-mailed back to the U.S. Army Reserve Center by the April 9 deadline before the participants' names can be added to the event roster.

After registration, a confirmation e-mail will be sent to each youth added to the roster.

If older youths (ages 14-17) are seriously interested in participating in the event, they should notify the U.S. Army Reserve Center to add them to a wait-list. Depending on the number of youths who register, the older youths may be accepted.

If any families have questions or need assistance, contact US ARC Family Mission Support Assistant McKeith Goff or Katie Laughlin at 808.438.2243, or via e-mail at katherine.laughlin@us.army.mil.

## Two missing Pohnpei men land after nine days adrift

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—The two men missing in a 19-foot skiff have safely landed on shore in the Chuuk state island of Mortlock. The men had been missing since March 27 and had drifted over 265 nautical miles in nine days.

The U.S. Coast Guard received a call yesterday afternoon from Dais Loren, the Pohnpei Search and Rescue Liaison, reporting that both men were alive and well on the Island of Mortlock.

After an extremely long ordeal at sea, they landed on the island and sent word via radio to their home island of Pohnpei.

A private twin-engine aircraft piloted by Alexander Tretnoff from Caroline Islands Air that had searched for over 30 hours last week will pick up the men and bring them home.

The search for the men was an outstanding multi-agency effort by the Federated States ship *Micronesia*, Caroline Islands Air, the Coast Guard C-130 aircrafts from Hawaii, the AMVER vessel *M/T Pacific Rainbo*, a tourist helicopter and the entire fishing community of Pohnpei. The search parties involved covered a combined area of over 12,400 square nautical miles. (USCG)

### 3rd Annual Roasts, Reds & Rendezvous at the Hyatt with Kendall Jackson Wines and Certified Angus Beef

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Wednesday	el Rancho Nights
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<sup>1</sup> Totally Free Checking: The minimum deposit to open an account and obtain the free mug and beverage carrier is \$100 (or just \$5 with direct deposit). Accounts with a zero balance for 30 consecutive days will be closed automatically. You will receive the mug and beverage carrier as a gift when you open a new (not converted) Totally Free Checking Account or any personal checking account. Offer not valid for business or corporate accounts. This offer cannot be combined with any other promotional offer. Limit of one mug and beverage carrier per customer or account. We reserve the right to substitute an item of similar value. Offer valid from 4/1/10 to 4/30/10 or while supplies last.

<sup>2</sup> Mortgage: Rates and fees are subject to change at anytime. Subject to credit approval. Offer good for application received by 4/1/10 through 4/30/10 and loan must be funded by 7/31/10. Bonus 25,000 miles good for 30-year fixed mortgage loans  $\geq$  \$100,000. Loans  $<$  \$100,000 will receive 10,000 miles. Please allow 6 to 8 weeks from loan booking for miles to be credited to your account. Refinancing of existing First Hawaiian Bank mortgages do not qualify. Not available for brokered in loans. For real properties located in Guam and Saipan. Offer cannot be combined with other promotions or special rates. Certain other restrictions apply. All OnePass program rules and conditions apply, including Continental's right to terminate the OnePass program. To review OnePass membership rules, visit [continental.com/onepass](http://continental.com/onepass).

<sup>3</sup> Continental OnePass Credit Card: Subject to credit approval. Apply by April 30, 2010 and when you're approved receive 5,000 bonus OnePass miles upon account opening and receive 10,000 bonus OnePass miles when you spend \$500 within the first 3 months. Allow 30-45 days from the date of the purchase to receive your bonus miles. All OnePass rules and conditions apply, including Continental's right to terminate or modify the OnePass program. Offer open to Guam and CNMI residents only.

<sup>4</sup> Continental OnePass Debit Card: Open a Continental OnePass Debit Card by April 30, 2010 and receive 1,000 bonus miles upon account opening and receive an additional 1,500 bonus miles with your first purchase within the first 3 months. Offer open to Guam and CNMI residents only. All OnePass program rules and conditions apply, including Continental's right to terminate or modify the OnePass program.

<sup>5</sup> Personal Loan: Requires a personal Priority Banking Plan<sup>SM</sup> Checking Account Level 3. Rates are .35 percentage points higher if Priority Banking Plan 3 status does not apply. Other benefits may be lost if the account is closed or converted to another type of account. Annual percentage rate shown above for customers who qualify for the Priority Banking Plan Checking Account Level 3. Annual Percentage Rate 7.64% is for closed-end personal loans effective until 04/30/10. APR is based on a 3 year term with monthly payments of \$155.86 for \$5,000 loan amount. \$40 doc prep fee is waived. Other rates and terms available. Subject to credit approval. Not for Hawaii, Business or Real Estate Loans. Refinances of existing First Hawaiian Bank personal loans or lines-of-credit do not qualify for the offer.

<sup>6</sup> Personal FirstLine<sup>SM</sup>: Requires a personal Priority Banking Plan<sup>SM</sup> Checking Account Level 3. Rates are 0.35 percentage points higher if Priority Banking Plan 3 status does not apply. Other benefits may be lost if the account is closed or converted to another type of account. Introductory and current indexed Annual Percentage Rates are shown above for customers who qualify for the Priority Banking Plan Checking Account Level 3. Introductory rate is fixed for one year from account opening and then adjusted to 4.15 percentage points over an index, which is the Wall Street Journal Prime Rate. The Annual Percentage Rate shall never be lower than 6.00% per year and shall never be higher than 18.00%. Annual fee of \$25 is waived as long as you maintain your personal Priority Banking Plan 3. Offer subject to credit approval and good for new approved Personal FirstLine applications received between 04/01/10 - 04/30/10 and cannot be combined with other promotions or special rates. Refinances of existing First Hawaiian Bank personal loans or lines-of-credit do not qualify for the offer.

<sup>7</sup> Guam and CNMI residents and branches only. Must have a Continental Airlines OnePass account to receive OnePass miles. No purchase necessary. All OnePass terms and conditions apply. See branch for official rules.





# BOE rebut's Fitia's 'tall tale' with list of funding received

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Board of Education released to the media yesterday a listing of all federal and local funds the Public School System received this fiscal year, following Gov. Benigno Fitia's statement that more than 50 percent of PSS' budget do not directly benefit students.

Board chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita, who showed *Saipan Tribune* the list yesterday, said every penny that PSS get go toward students in some way, directly to educate the students (textbooks, materials, etc.) or indirectly (paying teachers, providing professional development training, building maintenance, etc.)

"We are amazed at the tall tale

told by the governor that more than 50 percent of the PSS budget did not go directly to the students," Blanco-Maratita said.

The list includes:

- \$1.8 million for Head Start, which provides educational, health and social services to 472 pre-school children and their families;

- \$4.8 million for Special Education, which provides education and services to 875 special children by paying the salaries of 32 special education teachers, 102 teacher aides and 16 related services personnel; and

- \$8.4 million for the School Breakfast and Lunch Program, which provides nutritious breakfasts and lunches to 10,961 public school children and 2,100 private school children.

Blanco-Maratita said PSS also gets \$9.2 million from the Consolidated Education Grant, which provides for 32 class-size reduction teachers, 24 reading resource teachers, and 41 Troops-to-Teachers serving as teacher aides.

The Consolidated Education Grant also pays for \$3 million in instructional supplies and materials for public schools;

\$1.1 million for instructional supplies and materials for private schools; \$800,000 in student assessments for all 10,951 public school students; \$250,000 for student competitions; \$250,000 for after-school programs in high schools and \$200,000 for Saturday school.

PSS also gets \$16 million per year from the Education Stabilization Fund: \$3.7 million for salaries of 58 teachers; \$7 million for school repairs; \$2 million for laptop computers for students; \$1.3 million

for utilities; and \$2 million for supplies, materials, and equipment for vocational education programs.

This year, the Federal Transit Administration awarded PSS \$1.3 million for the purchase of 11 school buses.

About \$30 million in local funding pays for the salaries of 435 teachers, 60 teacher aides, 36 principals and vice principals, 18 counselors and 134 school support staff, and provides \$.67 per student per day for supplies such as toilet paper, drinking water, trash collection and disposal, and security services.



Blanco-Maratita

## Can you identify?

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the *Saipan Tribune*, is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.

If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.



The persons featured in last week's photo have been identified as, from left, Josepha Taitano Camacho, Peter T. Coleman, and George A. Sablan "Kappun". They were identified by John Guerrero, Diego Rebuénog, Frank T. Mettao, Canice Taitano, Tomasa Camacho, John Flores, Rose Magofna, Leo Kani, Daisy Mendiola, Margarita T. Aldan, Joanne Ogo, Joyce Songsong, Emma Peters, Ray Guerrero, Al Guerrero, Frank Mettao, Remedios Cangco, Joe Mendiola, Evelyn David, Rosita Waldron and Francis C. Keremius.



## Woman allegedly stole \$900 from alien worker by filing forged papers at Labor

The Office of the Attorney General has charged a woman of stealing \$900 from an alien worker by filing forged documents at the Department of Labor.

The OAG charged Maria E.C. Del Rosario with forgery and theft by deception.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja, however, took the case off calendar after the government notified the court that Del Rosario was not served

the summons and complaint.

Del Rosario, 45, failed to appear at the hearing last week.

Chief Prosecutor Rosemond Santos stated in the charging information that on Jan. 20, 2009, Del Rosario issued a document purporting to be an official voucher report from Labor and Immigration when no such actual document exists.

Santos said that between December 2008 and January 2009, Del Rosario collected \$900 for the processing of immigration paperwork and payment of fees for the employment of Rogelio Balesosa.

The prosecutor said Del Rosario created a false impression of processing the immigration paperwork and payment of fees by producing falsified receipts from Labor and Immigration. (Ferdie de la Torre)



## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 6, 2000

### CPA moves to get China Eastern Air into Saipan

In fresh efforts to assist in the recovery of the islands' travel sector, the Commonwealth Ports Authority is taking aggressive steps to fast-track the provision of flight services by China Eastern Airlines between Shanghai and Saipan. In a letter to George Wellington, chief of the foreign carrier licensing division of the United States Department of Transportation, CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas said air transportation service to Saipan has dwindled due to the reduction of direct flights from international destinations. Mr. Salas underscored the need to fast-track the realization of China Eastern's proposed direct regular flights between Shanghai and Saipan since CNMI's economy is heavily dependent on the tourism industry.

### Gov't eyes market for local agricultural produce

The Commonwealth Development Authority and the Department of Lands and Natural Resources are laying the ground work for a program that would alleviate the problems faced by local farmers and fishers in marketing their produce. CDA Executive Director Marylou S. Ada said a memorandum of understanding has been reached with DLNR to carry out a study that would help identify markets where local farmers and fishermen can sell their produce. Under the agreement, CDA will provide technical assistance in the form of a financial grant for the natural resources department to execute a study on the potentials of big-scale agriculture in the Northern Marianas.

April 6, 2001

### CPA probe on jet fuel leak nears completion

Reflecting its strong commitment to environmental protection, the Commonwealth Ports Authority is drawing near to the completion of its investigation on the jet fuel leak at the Saipan International Airport. CPA said Allied Pacific Environmental Consulting, which it contracted to conduct investigation and remediation works, is about 75 percent finished with the investigative phase of the project. APEC has started the remediation phase, which consists of construction of Soil Vapor Extraction system to remove jet fuel vapors, according to the ports authority.

### DLNR: Grazers derail government projects

The continued refusal of ranchers to vacate identified areas designated for the proposed Saipan Upland Mitigation Bank hampers the implementation of significant projects in the Commonwealth. Aside from developmental projects, the CNMI continues to hold off on the signing of the mitigation agreement with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, a contract which has been in the can for more than three years now. But Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Joaquin Tenorio remains hopeful current problems surrounding the project will be resolved in due time despite criticisms hurled by the Legislature that nothing has been done to address existing concerns.

April 6, 2003

### Legislator seeks solution to Puerto Rico sewage stench

Rep. William S. Torres has requested Gov. Juan N. Babauta to include Puerto Rico villagers in any future decisions that would address the fate of the sewage stink that Puerto Rico residents have been enduring for the past years. In a letter to the chief executive, Torres recommended that the administration develop plans to relocate the sewage plant out of the Puerto Rico village. "We are sure there may be other options that may be just as effective as the one at hand. Whatever option is or will soon be taken must always involve the villages in and around the contaminated area," said the Saipan congressman who heads the House Committee on United States and Foreign Affairs.

### Bill seeks to regulate 'shobais'

Rep. Arnold I. Palacios introduced Thursday legislation that intends to regulate "shobais" or freelance commercial activities that have emerged as a nuisance to tourists. The bill, dubbed the Beachside Revitalization Act of 2003, is in response to concerns that the shobai phenomenon has been steadily increasing in number, particularly on Saipan beachfronts. The Marianas Visitors Authority, in a recent meeting with House members, confirmed that shobai activities have existed for many years, adding that there is an inverse proportion to the CNMI tourist arrival figures versus the number of beachside concessionaires that have surfaced.



## TO ALL VALUED GUESTS - REVISED NOTICE

Please be advised that PIC Saipan will be conducting routine maintenance to the Point Break Wave Machine (Flow Rider).

The current schedule of maintenance is as follows:

**April 5 (Monday) - April 9 (Friday), resume operation April 10 (Saturday)**

\* Schedule may change due to weather conditions and any unforeseen delays.

The Lazy River will remain open during this period; however, the Tube Slide going from the Point Break down into the Lazy River will not be available. All other facilities will be in regular operation.

Thank you very much for your understanding.  
PIC Management





## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### INVITATION FOR BID CUC-IFB-10-021

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting sealed bids from qualified individuals or firms for the urgent supply of major overhaul and limited running parts for MITSUI #1 OVERHAUL project at Rota Power Plant CNMI.

Emergency generator sets will be used to power the island of Rota, while CUC takes down MITSUI #1 for major engine overhaul and rehabilitation. MITSUI #1 is seriously overdue for overhaul and the power situation on Rota is very critical.

A site visit and pre-bid meeting is not necessary, but bidders who wish to visit Rota power plant will be permitted with prior approval. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on part of the proposers due to a lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of the Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

The Scope-of-Work and Bid package will be **e-mailed** upon request, to all interested bidders, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays, **until Monday, March 29, 2010.**

One (1) original and five (5) copies must be submitted in a seal envelope marked **"IFB 10-021 MITSUI#1 OVERHAUL PARTS"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No. 4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **Wednesday, April 07, 2010 at 10:00 AM**, local time, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Local Bidders (CNMI based business) will be required to submit a copy of a CNMI Business License upon notice of award of contract. Off-island Bidders (Non-CNMI based business) are excluded from the requirement of submitting a copy of a CNMI Business license upon notice of award of contract.

The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and wave any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM local time on **Friday, April 2, 2010** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Purchasing Officer via email at [msablan@cucgov.net](mailto:msablan@cucgov.net) and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director Power System Rehabilitation via email at [wallon59@yahoo.com](mailto:wallon59@yahoo.com).

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE  
Acting Executive Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Secretary of Public Works  
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai  
Saipan, MP 96950



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DPW10-RFP-008

#### CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE CROSS ISLAND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE II-B CM-NH-0031 (015)

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified Architectural/Engineering companies for the **Construction Management Services for the Cross Island Road Improvements, Phase II-B (CNMI).**

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is **not available** because its use is prohibited by the Federal Law granting the funding for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 4-102 of the Procurement Regulations.

Any corporation or partnership "firm" must have or obtained a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Board of Professional Licensing (CNMI BOPL). Individuals and/or sole proprietors are required to possess a valid professional license issued by the CNMI BOPL.

The Scope of Work will be available on or after **March 23, 2010** at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A **mandatory** Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works, Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Gualo Rai Commercial Building on **April 9, 2010**. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Joseph M. Inos, Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **April 26, 2010**.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Company Background and Qualifications (5 pages maximum each company) – **25%**
2. Qualifications of Team or assigned personnel and organizational structure (5 pages combined maximum) – **30%**
3. Past Experience of team and/or assigned personnel on projects successfully completed of similar size and scope (10 pages combined maximum) – **25%**
4. Current Workload of Firm (5 pages maximum) – **20%**

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"DPW10-RFP-008"**. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **April 29, 2010**. Proposals located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a **Notice of Intent to Propose**. Notices of Intent to submit proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **April 29, 2010** and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 29, 2010 and must be received no later than **May 10, 2010**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussions shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Architect-Engineer firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government, factors such as the prices proposed by other firms responding to the solicitation shall be considered. If a fair and reasonable price can not be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The successful A-E firm will be subjected to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301.

This project is funded in whole by a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Contract award is contingent upon funding approval by the FHWA. All offerors shall be subjected to the provisions of the Federal Acquisition Regulations Part 52, Subpart 209-5, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Proposed Debarment, and Other Responsibility Matters, March 1996.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become property of the Government.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN  
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director of Procurement & Supply

## ZONING OFFICE TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

The Zoning Office will be holding workshops to promote educational awareness of the 2008 Saipan Zoning Law, as well as to seek comments on how the law is working. These workshops are in line with the Zoning Board's goal of addressing the issues and concerns expressed by the community, private sector and the legislature as it prepares for the law's review and update. The public consultation and information campaign will continue over the next month in order to obtain feedback required to update the 2008 Saipan Zoning Law. Please note the following changes made to the dates, times, and target group for the coming days:

<b>Wednesday, April 7, 2010</b>	<b>9:00 to 10:00am</b> <b>Engineers/ Architects</b>
<b>Wednesday, April 7, 2010</b>	<b>2:00 to 3:00pm</b> <b>Adult Businesses</b>
<b>Wednesday, April 14, 2010</b>	<b>2:00 to 3:00pm</b> <b>Government Agencies</b>

All workshops will be held at the Zoning Office conference room, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan. Anyone with questions about the meetings may contact the Zoning Office by phone at 234-9661 or by e-mail at [staff@zoning.gov.mp](mailto:staff@zoning.gov.mp).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chairperson

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS ZONING BOARD TO HOST VILLAGE MEETINGS

The Zoning Board and Office will hold a round of village meetings to seek comments about how the current zoning law is working, and will update and revise the current zoning law with the goal of addressing the issues and concerns expressed by the community, private sector and the legislature. The public consultation and information campaign over the next two months will continue in order to obtain feedback required to update the 2008 Saipan Zoning Law. Meeting dates and locations which have been confirmed are:

<b>Tuesday, April 6, 2010 6:00 PM</b>	<b>Kagman and Capitol Hill Villages</b> <b>@ Kagman Community Center</b>
<b>Thursday, April 8, 2010 6:00 PM</b>	<b>San Vicente Village</b> <b>@ San Vicente Elementary School Cafeteria</b>
<b>Thursday, April 15, 2010</b>	<b>6:00 PM Dandan Village</b> <b>@ Dandan Elementary School Cafeteria</b>
<b>Tuesday, April 20, 2010 6:00 PM</b>	<b>San Roque Village</b> <b>@ GTC Elementary School Cafeteria</b>

The Board encourages anyone with suggestions that might improve the language of the law, or changes to the zone boundaries to attend. Comments may be submitted orally or in writing at the meeting. Written suggestions may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, April 30, 2010 or they may be submitted via e-mail to [staff@zoning.gov.mp](mailto:staff@zoning.gov.mp), via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

Anyone with questions about the meetings may contact the Zoning Office by phone at 234-9661 or by e-mail at [staff@zoning.gov.mp](mailto:staff@zoning.gov.mp).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chairperson



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER  
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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### An apology for Srebrenica

It is Europe's worst atrocity since World War II. About 8,000 Bosnian Muslims, most of them men and boys, were rounded up and systematically killed in the region of Srebrenica during Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic's sweeping campaign to cleanse the Balkans of non-ethnic Serbs. At long last, the Serbian government issued an apology for the 1995 massacre in a hugely significant and politically difficult attempt to face that past.

President Boris Tadic is to be commended for pressing his countrymen to address the polarizing issue of what he called "that monstrous crime." The resolution, initially presented by his coalition, "strongly condemns the crime committed against the Bosnian Muslim population of Srebrenica," offers condolences and an apology to families of the victims, and acknowledges that "not everything was done to prevent the tragedy." The resolution provoked vitriolic debate, with supporters and opponents accusing each other of being traitors, Nazis or patsies for the European Union, and was approved in parliament by just two votes.

The carnage at Srebrenica was carried out by Bosnian Serb troops under their commander, Ratko Mladic, who is still at large and has been indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia at The Hague on 16 counts, including genocide and crimes against humanity. He must be brought to justice if Serbia is to fully draw a line under this horrific chapter. But large segments of Serbian society do not accept responsibility for this war crime, and some don't even acknowledge that the executions took place.

Critics decried the resolution as a cynical gesture driven by economics and calculated to satisfy the European Union, which demands that Serbia come clean on war crimes before it can join. The EU included Serbia in European visa and banking agreements following the 2008 arrest of former Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, who is now facing trial in The Hague on suspicion of masterminding the massacre in Srebrenica. Some Bosnian Muslim leaders and relatives of the victims say the declaration is too little, too late, particularly because it failed to recognize the war crime as genocide. The Hague tribunal has declared Srebrenica a genocide, the methodical killing of people "solely on the basis of their identity," and the International Court of Justice also called the killings acts of genocide.

Still, we consider this a huge step forward, one that hopefully advances the process of reconciliation. In politics, the right thing often is done for the wrong reasons. More important is that the right thing gets done. It is never too late to address crimes of the past. This is a good and welcome start.

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## Adoption revisited

In August 2009, we published a column titled "The Adoption Solution" in which we examined some of the pitfalls of adoption in the context of U.S. immigration. Over the last three decades, a large number of foreign workers allowed their children to be adopted by local U.S. citizens. The motivation behind these adoptions was varied: some were genuine adoptions, some just wanted to keep their children on island; some hoped for better educational opportunities for their children; some desired CNMI immigration benefits (IR permits); and some hoped for future U.S. immigration benefits. We continue to see clients who were the parents promoting such an adoption, but just as often now we see the children, now adults, who were the adoptees. Today, we will look at some of the unintended consequences of these adoptions. But first, a short history lesson is in order.

Like all parents everywhere, foreign workers in the CNMI wanted to have their children living with them. Prior to 1987, there was no restriction on the ability of foreign workers to bring their dependents with them when they accepted employment in the CNMI, if they could afford to do so. Public Law 5-32, enacted in 1987, was a major overhaul of the labor and immigration laws; it established the system for employing foreign workers in the CNMI that continued until the next major overhaul in 2007, Public Law 15-108. Public Law 5-32 eliminated the entry of dependents of foreign workers because it was deemed that these dependents constituted a burden on public services, especially in education and health care. A civil rights lawsuit by concerned nonresident workers succeeded in protecting the status of already admitted dependents and established that the exclusion would only apply to the future.

Subsequent to the passage of Public Law 5-32, there was a major outcry by foreign investors, led by owners of large hotels, that the law would make it impossible for these businesses to hire or retain necessary foreign managers, who would not be willing to relocate to the CNMI if they were not allowed to bring their families. The Legislature revisited the issue and enacted Public Law 6-28, providing that foreign executives and managers earning over \$20,000 per year would be exempt from the ban. This of course excluded the vast majority of foreign workers who, in 1989, were earning the legal minimum wage of \$2.15 per hour, or \$4,472 per year for a 40-hour workweek. (Construction workers were paid \$1.75 per hour, and domestic workers could be hired for as low as \$150 per month plus room and board.)

Adoption became a popular strategy that many foreign workers used to evade the restrictions imposed by the law that would have separated them from their families. In some sham adoptions, the adopted children continued to live with their natural parents. These adoptions were successful in achieving the original goal—to find a way for foreign worker parents to keep their children with them—but in the long term there are often negative consequences. Two examples: First, adopted children who as adults acquire immigration benefits, such as by marriage or through employment, cannot provide immigration benefits in turn to their natural parents or siblings, because the adoption severed the legal relationship of parent and child, brother and sister. Second, children who did not acquire any lasting U.S. immigration status by the time they became adults

## IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and  
BRUCE MAILMAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

are faced with returning to their "home" countries, where they may no longer know the language or the customs, and as a result may not have any ready way to earn a living.

Even children who were adopted sincerely may have immigration problems if the adopting parents were too casual about protecting their adopted child's status. Here's a story we have heard, in its essential facts, too many times:

Recently, we were visited by a client who was adopted by a Chamorro U.S. citizen couple when she was 10 years old. (Details are changed to protect the identity of the individual.) Her mother was a widowed contract worker who returned to the Philippines after the adoption. The Chamorro couple had an empty nest and were happy to have our client in their home. Unlike many, this appears to have been a genuine adoption. For reasons that are not clear, the adoptive parents never applied for the child to become a U.S. permanent resident; our client reported that her adoptive parents just never thought it would be a problem. However, when the girl turned 21, she was no longer eligible for CNMI IR status, and she converted to contract worker status. Her adoptive parents moved to the mainland and contact between them became sporadic. She was 27 when CNMI immigration was federalized in November 2009. She has an umbrella permit which will expire in November 2011. Between now and then, she must obtain U.S. immigration status or she will have to leave the CNMI, voluntarily or otherwise. She consulted us to see if she can apply for a green card.

The answer we gave her, sadly, is that no, she cannot apply for a green card. There are several problems. The first is the willingness of the adoptive parents to make the application. A candidate for a green card, except in very limited circumstances, cannot apply for herself. Her U.S. citizen sponsor, in this instance her adoptive parent, must initiate the petition. Because our client now only has sporadic contact with her adoptive parents, it is unclear whether they might be willing to file a petition. The second problem is timing. As the adopted child of U.S. citizens who was adopted before the age of 16, she was fully eligible to obtain a green card prior to the age of 21, as long as she was unmarried. At any time before she turned

See ADOPTION on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor

No excuse for dirty toilets

Last weekend, I attended a basketball tournament between several teams from the CNMI and Japanese boys and girls in the under 17 and under 15 age groups. The first day, Friday, the games were held at MHS gymnasium. What a pleasant day! Everything was clean, cool; bleachers were pulled so everyone would be comfortable; restrooms were clean and fully stocked. If supplies were used up, items were replaced immediately and cheerfully.

The next day, the games were held at the Ada Gym because the MHS gym had already been booked for another event. It was like going from one well-ordered world into one that needed a lot of help! No air conditioning or fans; some bleachers pulled out, some not, no continuity whatsoever; generally dirty appearance, but the real kicker was the restroom facilities!

Usually when I am at Ada Gym, I will get into my car and drive to a store or restaurant to use the facilities, but this day, I decided to just grin and bear it. My grandson said I should not use the restrooms that are open to the public because they were *nasty*. So since the Japanese girls were playing at that time, I made my way to the women’s locker room. It didn’t look too bad so I proceeded into the restroom area (two stalls). The first one was unflushable and

was filled almost to the top of the bowl with water and toilet tissue. I proceeded into the second stall and what to my wondering eyes should appear\* but a filthy black toilet bowl with a little clean water in it. There was plenty of toilet tissue, however, so I made use of that toilet. Then when I started to flush, I noticed that the lid of the toilet tank was partially off the tank. Uh-oh, I thought, this doesn’t look good and sure enough the toilet wouldn’t flush! I tried a number of times to no avail, so I finally went back out to the bleachers. I didn’t see anyone around who was checking on things and to whom I could report the horrible conditions. Most people I spoke to about this just shrugged and said that is the way it always is. That attitude is unacceptable.

I was ashamed and every resident of the CNMI should be ashamed that Japanese visitors to our island had to be subjected to conditions such as these. These were young people who must have been as mortified at these conditions, as I was. *And* we want them to go back home and try to convince their family and friends that Saipan is a wonderful place to vacation! There is absolutely no excuse for filth or unworkable toilets. People are being paid a salary to take care of this facility.

If MHS can have clean, workable facilities, so can Ada Gym and everywhere there are public restrooms on Saipan. It doesn’t cost a lot of money; just good, old-fashioned elbow grease, a plunger, a broom, mop and a few cleaning supplies to handle most of these situations and most importantly, a human body available to handle things like all of the above.

I know the leagues/teams pay a user fee. Where is the money going? If there are no people who should be taking care of this cleanup, why not use the fees to hire a cleaning service to do the dirty work!

And while I am at it, does anyone ever wash the mop that is used to wipe up spills and/or wet spots on the playing floor? It is disgustingly dirty. Something needs to be done at once to correct and prevent further occurrences such these. The outside toilets are even worse. I can only hope that the next time I have reason to go to Ada Gym, things will have improved.

Sylvia Wagner Haywood  
I Denni, Saipan

\*My apologies to *The Night Before Christmas*

Why are people so afraid of Beno?

This is in response to some critics of mine, who shall remain nameless because they hide in cyberspace with false names: Why are you and maybe others so afraid of WASC’s Barbara Beno?

If you take the time and read about Beno’s background in California news reports, you can see for yourself that other colleges have had the same problem with Beno’s vindictiveness as we have experienced in the CNMI.

If you recall, WASC and Beno stood by and allowed the Northern Marianas College to fall into a gigantic chasm of economic and personnel turmoil during the La Fiesta fiasco in 2002 and, probably, it’s lasted until now, since NMC has not fully recovered from the tremendous loss of wasted revenues, and the dismissal of loyal and hardworking instructors and administrators who challenged certain misguided people of NMC’s management that was protected by Beno.

If it hasn’t sunk into some people’s minds, Beno-WASC receives larger amounts of fees and expenses when a college gets into trouble, and some people have not removed themselves from the LaLa Fiasco world of naivete to understand that WASC is an educational business monopoly, which can be subject to individual power mongers since there is virtually no oversight over WASC, except for the U.S. Department of Education.

One critic summed up the fear that people have of Beno, that is, even if she did have problems before, we can’t anger her because

NMC’s accreditation will be in jeopardy.

Well, critics, NMC’s accreditation has always been in jeopardy since Beno took over the WASC’s Accrediting Commission for Colleges and Junior Colleges in August of 2001, coincidentally about a year prior to the arrival of Ken Wright at NMC and the subsequent NMC’s La Fiasco. Beno was heavily criticized then for her lack of WASC monitoring of NMC, and she continues now to show vindictiveness to anyone who challenges her, for example, her callous and demeaning attitude toward former NMC board member and NMC’s president emerita Agnes McPhetres.

Why is it that NMC had virtually no problems with accreditation prior to the arrival of Beno in 2001? Historically, this was during president McPhetres’ time from circa 1982 to 2001, and NMC was a very good college back then, without the unnecessary interference from WASC.

Please read the reprint of the California news article from May 9, 2006 (just “Google” the phrase: ‘barbara beno and Compton’, and read “Accrediting Commission Provokes Critics After Compton Threats”); and see if there are comparisons to those California colleges (Peralta and Compton) and NMC. California college leaders criticized WASC and Beno for having “no oversight,” and being “out of control.” It took a former California Assemblyman, who knew how to fight WASC, and even threaten to sue WASC and Beno, before the Peralta College district was left alone by Beno.

I ask my cyber critics to first name yourself or I will consider your criticism as coming from being a frustrated cyber cave dweller and, secondly, I ask that you read all the facts before becoming so bold with your personal attacks while hiding in the dark. You know, dictators like Beno, when supported by people hiding in the shadows, do more harm when unchallenged. So, I’ll stand in the light and will continue to challenge, and I accept any constructive criticism, even from TaoTao Tano, who I respect because at least he signs his name to his talk.

Rep. Stanley T. McGinnis Torres  
Capital Hill, Saipan

Erratum

I erroneously named *current* board member Tanya King a former board member of the Board of Education, and would like to extend my apologies. I appreciate all she does for PSS and especially Kagman High School.

Leila Staffler  
Kagman High School

Protect integrity of census

Having arbitrarily dismissed—apparently without even their promised pay—dozens of people who’d been undergoing training for three weeks or more on the do’s and don’ts of census taking, it is now rumored that our illustrious governor is going to declare another one of his beloved “emergencies” and waive the requirements that census takers must pass qualifying tests, must undergo training, must undergo drug testing, etc., etc., etc.

Sending untrained people out to help residents fill out census forms and then to collect them will destroy the reliability, integrity, and the usefulness of the forms, not to mention violate the confiden-

tiality of the information offered and recorded in the forms.

Census takers who underwent training took an oath to keep the information confidential. They were also schooled to accept whatever information was given them, and not to “help” people by explaining or defining terms used in the form. Only in this way could the results be uniform across the entire country.

Untrained census takers may not be so conscientious. How can integrity be retained? Residents should not turn in their census forms to census takers who do not have a photo identification, who did not undergo the three weeks of training, who did not take the confidential-

ity oath. How can you tell? Ask them, and see what they say!

The census determines the amount of federal aid given to the CNMI in millions of dollars in formula grants each year. If the figures are wrong, the CNMI suffers. (And if those figures are illegally increased, the CNMI will suffer even more.)

Protect the integrity of the census! Make sure your census taker is fully qualified!

Ruth L. Tighe  
Tanapag, Saipan

ADOPTION

From Page 10

21, her adoptive parents could have applied for her. Had they done so, the processing time would have been relatively short, a matter of months, and she would now be a U.S. permanent resident, or even a U.S. citizen. Because her parents failed to act in time, she faces a very long wait, even if the parents are now willing to apply. It appears that under U.S. immigration policy, the more you want to get into the United States the more difficult it is. People from countries that have the largest number of potential immigrants have the longest wait. The Philippines is one of those countries. Mexico, mainland China, and India are others. Our client is in the “First Preference” category (unmarried sons and daughters of U.S. citizens over 21 years of age); in that category USCIS is currently processing the applications of people whose applications were filed in March 1994. This means that even if our client’s adoptive parents apply for her right now, the application will not come

up for processing for another 16 years. If she were married (to another alien), the wait would be two years longer, or 18 years. If her sponsor is a brother or a sister, the wait for processing will be seven years longer, or 23 years.

The following is a different scenario, illustrating the harm that can follow an adoption done without legal advice. We were visited by a woman from the Philippines who married a U.S. citizen, who applied for green cards for her and her teenage son, with the help of a “friend” who was not a lawyer. The friend also arranged for the husband to adopt his stepson. The mother was approved for permanent residence without problem, but the child was not. Why? Because the son was 17 when adopted, and therefore could not get any immigration benefit from the adoption. Worse, the adoption, by making the boy the legal child of the husband, destroyed their prior relationship of stepfather and stepchild. Had he remained a stepchild, without adoption, that relationship would have allowed him to be the beneficiary of a “derivative” application together with his mother. Mother and son would have become permanent residents at the same time. The son is now 21 and, as the child of a U.S. perma-

nent resident, is in preference category 2B. His mother can petition for him, but the U.S. government is now processing category 2B petitions filed on or before Sept. 15, 1998, and his application will be processed in approximately 12 years.

The moral of this story, if there is a moral: If you are the adoptive parent of a minor child, or if you intend to become one, or if you are the natural parent of a child to be adopted, educate yourself first about any pitfalls, as well as the benefits, resulting from the adoption. Adoption is a legal step that cannot be undone, and it has serious implications for anyone seeking U.S. immigration benefits.






*The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.*



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼78
Palau	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼77
Yap	Showers	▲89 ▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲89 ▼82
Pohnpei	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼80
Kosrae	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼80
Majuro	Showers	▲86 ▼80

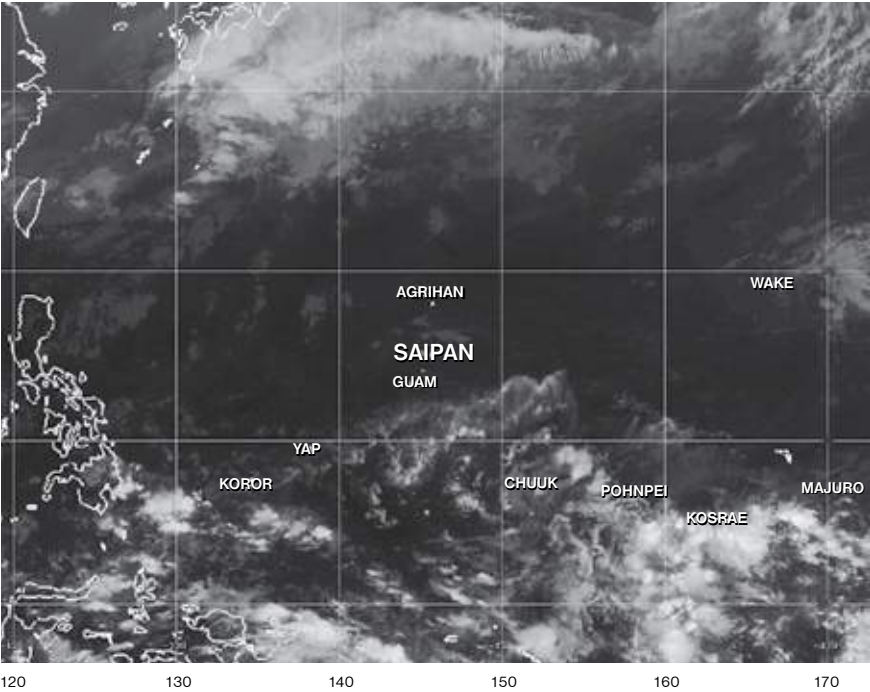
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲64 ▼57
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲64 ▼37
Hong Kong	Showers	▲73 ▼62
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼71
London	Partly Cloudy	▲60 ▼45
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲69 ▼51
Manila	Sunny	▲93 ▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲71 ▼60
Miami	Sunny	▲81 ▼67
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲76 ▼57
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲54 ▼41
Paris	Sunny	▲64 ▼39
Pusan	Windy	▲52 ▼44
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲67 ▼43
Salem	Showers	▲52 ▼39
San Francisco	Sunny	▲57 ▼48
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲54 ▼37
Tokyo	Showers	▲53 ▼44
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲85 ▼64

### Tides

Saipan Harbor				
2:29 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
7:27 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet	
11:41 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet	
7:47 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



### PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough extends east-southeastward from 6N130E to end at EQ145E. Winds converging near the trough are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 120 miles of a line from 5N130E to 4N140E. A weak circulation is centered just east of Wake island at 19N169E. Scattered showers are occurring between 16N and 22N from 169E to 173E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in a large area over Kosrae and Tarawa to the south of a line from 5N157E to 6N173E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09 AM	6:30 PM
Wednesday	6:09 AM	6:30 PM
Thursday	6:08 AM	6:30 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:31 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:20 AM	11:48 AM
Wednesday	1:06 AM	12:39 PM
Thursday	1:49 AM	1:29 PM
Friday	2:28 AM	2:17 PM
Saturday	3:04 AM	3:04 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

#### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

#### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

### HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com) or [jayvee\\_vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com).
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 30, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:00am	2:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09598	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
				C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)				NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
DL640	8:40am	11:25am	1, 3, 7	DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
DL640/646	8:40am	1:55pm	1, 3, 7 via NGO	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
				DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily	DL287/641	6:35pm	1:40am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:20am	6:10am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via Osaka
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via Osaka				Arrive OSA 8:50pm, leave OSA 9:50pm
			Arrive OSA 6:40am, leave OSA 9:30am	OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6	CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ706/607	3:35am	2:10am+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via PUS
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				6 via GUM
			1, 4, 5, 7 via PUS	C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ608/705	3:20am	1:30am+1	1, 4, 5, 7 via PUS	OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:40am+1	7 via ICN
			6 via GUM	OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ9317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM	PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C09603/893	3:15pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM				3, 5 via GUM
C09603/933	3:15pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM	C0892/9596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM
OZ606/703	3:20pm	10:55pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
			Daily via GUM	OZ704/605	11:55pm	2:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via ICN
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	Daily via GUM				
C09599/PR111	9:20pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45pm	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
			4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/605	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	4, 6, 7 via ICN				7 via ICN
				OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
				OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)				OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily	OZ120	9:55am	2:20am+1	Daily

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
Guam-Rota				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# NMC gets 'Above and Beyond' employer award

The Northern Marianas College was recently awarded the "Chairman's Above and Beyond Award" by the state chair of the Employer Support of the Guam and Reserve, Guam-CNMI Committee.

The presentation of the award was made at the Employer Gala Awards held at the Saipan World Resort.

The ESGR is a Department of Defense agency that seeks to develop and promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees. It does so by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflicts through mediation.

Staff and volunteers of ESGR inform and educate service members and their civilian employers regarding their rights and responsibilities under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

The "Chairman's Above and Beyond Award" is given to employers who have gone above and beyond the requirements of USERRA. The recipients are personally chosen by the state chair, Benny Paulino, Major



NMC interim president, Lorraine T. Cabrera, center right, accepts the ESGR "Chairman's Above and Beyond Award" on behalf of the Northern Marianas College.

General, U.S. Army (Ret.).

NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera was present at the awards ceremony to accept the award on behalf of the Northern Marianas College.

"We are extremely honored to receive this award," said Cabrera. "We will continue to support our service members in all

the ways we can."

In his message to Gala participants, Paulino said: "By acknowledging employers' support of the Guard and Reserve members, the Department of Defense takes a proactive stance in promoting support. It strengthens community relationships and it provides positive

examples to all employers of the many ways to demonstrate support of the nation's Guam and Reserve service members."

According to Paulino, Guam and Reserve members represent almost half of the nation's total military strength including 2,600 men and women from Guam and the CNMI. (NMC)

## TV show to feature MMAC organizers

The John Gonzales Live show on KSPN 2 will feature the individuals currently involved in preparing for the upcoming Marianas March Against Cancer event.

The show will air live on Wednesday, May 12, from 7pm to 8pm.

The guests will discuss how cancer has affected their lives and the lives of their loved ones; they will discuss the medical aspects relating to cancer; and they will discuss the fundraising activities currently taking place, culminating in the largest cancer fundraising event in the CNMI, the annual Marianas March Against Cancer.

The entire community is encouraged to tune in to KSPN channel 2 and help support the battle against cancer. All are encouraged to call or text in questions or comments related to cancer so that the panel may have the chance to interact live with the community.

Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in the CNMI and events like the Marianas March Against Cancer help raise critically needed funds to fight this deadly disease. One hundred percent of funds raised are spent locally on cancer awareness programs and cancer patient assistance.

The 2010 MMAC will be held on May 14-15, from 6pm to 6am, at the Hopwood Junior High School field in Chalan Piao. For more information call 483-4207, email janine.nogis@gmail.com or visit www.ccamarianas.org. (PR)

## Town hall meetings with Kilili today, tomorrow

CNMI residents will soon have another opportunity to meet and speak to their congressman, Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, in two "town hall" style gatherings scheduled for today and tomorrow, April 6 and 7.

At the town hall meetings, Sablan will be taking questions about issues important to CNMI residents, and asking for input on legislation currently before Congress.

"The conversations that came about from last year's series of town hall meetings in the NMI were very productive," said Sablan. "The feedback, questions, and comments provided a deeper insight into the needs and concerns of the people. Having that information is what inspires me to do more in Washington, D.C."

The first town hall meeting will be held at the Northern

Marianas College today, April 6, 2010, at 5pm to 7pm in Room D1. The second one will be tomorrow, April 7, 2010, at 5pm to 7pm at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

"Having open communication with constituents is an essential part of what I do. I hear on a daily basis from people in the NMI by phone and e-mail about their concerns and opinions regarding national policy and the events they hear or read about in the media," Sablan said. "But these town halls will give me a chance to see people face to face, and, I hope, to hear from all of the people I represent in Congress."

Some of the issues expected to be discussed are the recently enacted health care reform law, expanding educational opportunities for the people of the

CNMI, federal immigration, energy alternatives for the islands, environmental protection, and the services Sablan's office can provide directly to constituents.

"I invite everyone to attend and participate in what I hope will be a very open and candid dialogue," said Sablan.

The town hall meeting today will also be aired live via video-conferencing at the NMC Rota and Tinian campuses. Rota and Tinian residents are invited to attend the video conference at their respective NMC campuses from 5pm to 7pm and participate in the town hall.

For more information about the town hall meetings, email kilili@mail.house.gov or call Sablan's district office at 323-2647/8. (PR)

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### UOG to host College Night on Saipan

The University of Guam will host a College Night on Saipan on April 19 to provide admissions, academic, and financial aid information high school students and their parents. The event will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center on Saipan on April 19 beginning at 6pm. The University of Guam will be administering the math placement test at various high schools. Contact Dr. Julie Ulloa-Heath, dean of Enrollment Management and Student Services, at 735-2292 or julieuh@uguam.uog.edu for more information. (UoG)

### Public hearing on austerity bill

The Office of Sen. Jovita Taimanao will be hosting a public hearing on the proposed austerity bill. The hearing will take place at the Kagman Community Center on April 13 at 6pm. All residents are strongly urged to attend this public hearing. (PR)

### Zoning Board sets Kagman public hearing

The CNMI Zoning Board will be conducting a public hearing in Kagman. Meeting will take place at the Kagman Community Center on April 6 at 6pm. All residents are urged to attend. (PR)

### Memorial Day committee meetings

May 31, 2010 is Memorial Day, a day when the CNMI will be paying tribute and remembrance to the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice so that others may enjoy the fruits of freedom. This is to let anyone interested in being a part of the 2010 Memorial Day Committee that it will begin to meet every Wednesday at 9am starting on April 7, 2010, at the Office of Military/Veterans Affairs on Capitol Hill, building 1364. Everyone is welcome and invited to attend. (PR)

### Military training on Farallon de Mendenilla

The U.S. military would be conducting military training on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla on April 5 to 7, from 6:30am to 8pm, and on April 9, 2010, from 6:30am to 8pm.

The general location of this activity will be on the island of Farallon de Mendenilla Training Area (R7201) on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, the Emergency Management Office is strongly advising the public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, to stay away from this area during the time and date indicated.

For more information, contact the EMO's Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF MARINE CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211. (EMO)

### Senate committee seeks public comments

The Senate Standing Committee on Health and Welfare is encouraging all members of the public to submit written recommendations, concerns, questions and/or comment on:

■ S. B. 17-10, SS1: To establish a population-based cancer registry in the Commonwealth Of The Northern Mariana Island; and

■ S.B. 17-11: To enact a new chapter 8 of the Division 2 of Title 3 of the Commonwealth Code; and for other purposes (Medical Consent Act of 2010).

Copy of the legislation may be obtained at the CNMI Legislature in Capitol Hill, Saipan, at the Offices of Sen. Ralph DLG. Torres, or the Senate Clerk, or may be downloaded at cnmleg.gov.mp.

Written recommendations, concerns, questions and/or comment may be dropped off at the Office of Sen. Ralph DLG. Torres at the Legislative Building, e-mailed to senatorrtorres@gmail.com or mailed to P.O. Box 500129, Saipan, MP 96950.

Deadline for submission of comments is April 9, 2010. For additional information, call (670) 664-8874. (PR)

### NMC Charter Day set; vendors invited

The Northern Marianas College Charter Day Committee has set the date of the celebration for May 7, 2010. NMC's Charter Day is an annual celebration of the college's service to the community as an institution of higher learning. It will be 29 years this April since NMC was first chartered.

The committee is inviting different agencies, businesses, clubs, and other civic organizations to participate in the celebration. Organizations may purchase booth space for the following categories: food/drink, specialty drinks (e.g., coffee coolers or pearl shakes), games booths, retail (arts and crafts, toys, etc), and information.

The deadline to submit applications for booth spaces is on April 26, 2010. Booth space is limited, so applications should be submitted as soon as possible.

For application forms, requirements, or for more information, contact Alaysha Muna at 234-5498 Ext. 1300 or email alaysham@nmcnet.edu. (NMC)



## MAIDEN PORT CALL

MaryAnn Quitugua Lizama, Port of Saipan manager, presents a plaque of appreciation to Sun Princess Capt. Graham Goodway, left, and Staff Capt. Kevin Grant during the vessel's port call on Saturday, April 3, 2010. The visit was the Sun Princess' maiden port call on Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



# Island Snapshots



## iSERVE, iGIVE BACK

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tan Holdings employees volunteer their free time on March 20, 2010, to clean up the pavilion in front of the JP Center on Beach Road, Garapan. The project is part of the company's iServe, iGive Back initiative and the volunteers comprised Tan Holdings companies that call JP Center home (Century Insurance, Century Finance, Century Travel, L&T, *Saipan Tribune*, and human resources and information technology departments).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tan Holdings volunteers are shown giving the pavilion a fresh coat of paint. A total of 64 trash bags were collected by 53 volunteers from JP Center during their "Adopt-A-Pavilion" project last March 20, 2010.



## WIA TRAINING

NMC

The Northern Marianas College Community Development Institute presented certificates of competence to WIA participants who completed the program on March 9, 2010. WIA participants who received the award were able to successfully complete eleven courses in computer literacy and customer service training. In the photo from back row left: John Manalo (CDI), Clarissa Agulto, Jasmine Sapong, Christina Phillips, Barbara Santos (WIA case manager), Les Ogu-moro-Uludong (CDI). Front row from left: Jazmine Villagomez, Colin Kileleman, Evelyn Singa, Antonia Hossain.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations and happy anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Benedicto and Ana Lizama who celebrated their 40th year of marriage on April 4, 2010. You have truly lived up to your marriage vows with the promise to love, honor, cherish, in sickness and in health, for better or worse, richer or poorer for as long as you both shall live. We love you both and may you be blessed with many more years to come. We as your children will go along for the ride! We love you mom and dad! From all of us near and far on Saipan, in Hawaii and DC.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## CNMI MAYORS

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, seated, is flanked by from left, Northern Islands Mayor Tobias Aldan, Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz, Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola, and Saipan Mayor Donald Flores just before a budget meeting on April 1, 2010.



NMC

## ACCREDITATION POWWOW

NMC Board of Regents chair Janet Han King, center, interim NMC president Lorraine T. Cabrera, right, and accreditation liaison officer Galvin Deleon Guerrero, left, provide members of the CNMI Senate with an overview of accreditation issues on Tuesday, March 16, in the Senate Chamber.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## RECYCLING BINS

U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) helps the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance hand out certificates of appreciation to eight organizations and families who have pledged to adopt MINA's recycling and trash bins during a ceremony held March 27, 2010, at the Obyan beach.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The audience applauds the official ribbon "untying" of the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance's first recycling and trash bins at Obyan Beach. Over 50 individuals from government agencies, public and private organizations and the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps turned out to celebrate the installation of the bins.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

About 23 cadets from the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps pose with over 40 lbs of trash and recyclables that they gathered from Obyan Beach's shoreline on March 27, 2010.



# Business

## Apple fans eagerly touch and swipe first iPads

**SEATTLE (AP)**—Now that the iPad is in the hands of early adopters, the hard work for Apple Inc. begins.

Eager customers intent on being among the first owners of this new class of gadgetry stood in long lines across the country Saturday. They seemed willing to buy first—and discover uses for the iPad later.

In some ways, it was reminiscent of the lines and hoopla surrounding the 2007 launch of the first iPhone. The difference: People knew then that the iPhone would replace their existing cell phone, an appliance that has become a must-have for everyone from uber-geeks to stay-at-home moms.

With the iPad, which fits somewhere between phone and computer, Apple must convince people who already have smart phones, laptops, e-book readers, set-top boxes and home broadband connections that they need another device that serves many of the same purposes.

Many of the earliest iPad buyers say they will have a better idea of what they'll use it for only after they've had it for a while.

That didn't stop them from

imagining, though.

Beth Goza has had iPhones and other smart phones, along with a MacBook Air laptop, yet she believes the iPad has a place in her digital lineup. She likened it to a professional tennis player owning different sneakers for grass, clay and concrete courts.

"At the end of the day, you can get by with one or the other," she said outside an Apple store in Seattle's University Village mall.

But she clearly doesn't want to just "get by." She's already

dreaming up specific uses for her iPad, such as knitting applications to help her keep track of her place in a complicated pattern.

Danita Shneidman, a woman in her 60s, wanted one to look at photos and videos of her first grandchild, born this week in Boston.

And then there's Ray Majewski, who went to an Apple store in Freehold, N.J., with his 10-year-old daughter, Julia. The iPad is partly as a reward for her straight A's in school, and partly a present for himself.



A customer uses an Apple iPad on the first day of Apple iPad sales at an Apple store in San Francisco, Saturday, April 3, 2010.

## Water bills go up in down economy as usage drops

**PORTLAND, Maine (AP)**—The grim economy is hitting some consumers in the wallet in yet another way: their water bills.

Many water utilities are raising rates because water use is down, in part because manufacturers have closed or are cutting back, tourism has fallen and the real estate market is in the doldrums.

Water sales for the Kennebec, Kennebecport & Wells Water District in southern Maine fell 11 percent last year, to 1995 levels. The No. 1 reason is the sour economy, said superintendent Norm Labbe.

One of the utility's largest

customers, a catalog printer, shut its doors last year, putting 374 people out of work. Tourism also has been down—meaning fewer tourists are taking showers and flushing toilets in the motels in the region's beachside communities.

"This is happening most everywhere. It's a regional thing, it's a national thing," Labbe said. "Many, many (water utilities) around the country are seeing decreases in revenues. Because if industry goes down, revenues go down."

A recent study by the Water Research Foundation, a Denver-based nonprofit, on the recession's impact on wa-

ter utilities found that home foreclosures and business contractions have reduced water demand in many areas. Cities with high unemployment also have seen reduced water consumption as people move away in search of jobs, said Rob Renner, the foundation's executive director.

"It depends on where you are in the country. Regionally, the economy is better in some places than in others," he said.

Water companies for the most part get their money from customers. When water consumption goes up, revenues go up—but when consumption falls, so do revenues.

due April 15—just as China's president comes to Washington for a nuclear security summit. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said Saturday he was delaying publication because several high-level international meetings in the coming months would be a better way to advance the U.S. position.

### SandRidge to buy Arena Resources for \$1.6B

Oil and gas explorer SandRidge Energy Inc. is buying fellow developer Arena Resources Inc. for \$1.6 billion as the continued drop in natural gas prices drives a bigger focus on oil resources, the companies said Sunday. Arena shareholders will receive \$2.50 in cash and about 4.78 shares of SandRidge stock for each Arena share held. That values the Tulsa, Okla., company at \$40 per share—a 17 percent premium to the stock's Friday closing price of \$34.26. Based on Arena's 39.2 million shares outstanding at Dec. 31, the transaction is worth \$1.57 billion.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Asian shares advance on US jobs market recovery

**SINGAPORE (AP)**—Asian stock markets were mostly higher Monday after an encouraging U.S. jobs report offered the latest sign the global economy is on the mend. Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average rose 0.5 percent to 11,343.28, while South Korea's Kospi index slipped 0.2 percent to 1,719.44. Singapore's benchmark index rose 0.4 percent and Indonesia gained 1.2 percent. On Friday, the U.S. Labor Department said employers added 162,000 jobs in March, the largest job gain in three years. The unemployment rate stayed at 9.7 percent for the third straight month.

#### White House: Iran not why currency report delayed

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The White House denies any connection between delaying a report on China's currency policies and seeking China's cooperation on new penalties against Iran for its nuclear program. The report to Congress was

# Nation

## Millions in Calif., Ariz., Mexico feel 7.2 quake

**TIJUANA, Mexico (AP)**—One of the strongest earthquakes to hit Southern California in decades shook tens of millions of people in two countries and three states on Sunday, swaying buildings from Los Angeles to Phoenix to Tijuana. At least one person in Mexico was killed and others were feared trapped in their homes.

The 7.2-magnitude quake struck at 3:40 p.m. PDT, about 38 miles (60 kms) southeast of the border city of Mexicali, Mexico, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. It had a shallow depth of 10 kilometers (6 miles). Three aftershocks of magnitudes 5.1, 4.5 and 4.3 followed within the hour.

"It sounds like it's felt by at least 20 million people at this point," USGS seismologist Lucy Jones said. "Most of Southern California felt this earthquake."

The earthquake was felt the hardest in Mexicali, a bustling commerce center along the border.

Baja California state Civil



Protection Director Alfredo Escobedo said a man was killed when his home collapsed just outside of Mexicali, and that there were reports of more people trapped in homes in the area.

Rescue teams with dogs

and digging equipment were rushing to the city from nearby Tijuana, but a landslide along that highway was slowing traffic.

All 300 patients had to be evacuated from the Mexicali General Hospital to other clinics because the building had no electricity or water, Escobedo said. Blackouts were widespread throughout the city and telephone communication was patchy.

The parking garage at Mexicali's city hall also collapsed, Escobedo said, but no one there was hurt.

As darkness fell there were growing reports of damage on the U.S. side of the border in Calexico, a city of about 27,000, but no injuries.

"We have some substantial damage here in our older section of Calexico," Fire Chief Peter Mercado told KABC-TV Los Angeles. "We have a few buildings that have sustained some structural damage, broken windows."

## Easter service at DC church draws Obama family

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—President Barack Obama and his family marked the Easter holiday by attending a music-filled service at a historically black Methodist church in southeast Washington, an area that was rocked by violence last week.

A boisterous crowd of more than 1,000 people welcomed the Obamas on Sunday at the Allen Chapel AME Church. Joining him at the service were his wife, Michelle, daughters Sasha and Malia, and his mother-in-law, Marian Robin-

son. Also attending were the mayor of Washington, Adrian Fenty, and his wife.

"Mr. President, you have no idea how much your presence has meant to us today," Allen Chapel's senior pastor, the Rev. Michael Bell, said after his sermon.

Bell said it was providence that the president would attend service at Allen Chapel so shortly after the shootings. It was heartening to know that southeast Washington has not been forgotten, he said, adding that Obama's presence at the

church was "bringing healing and hope into this community right now."

Four people were killed and five wounded last Tuesday night when gunmen in a minivan sprayed a crowd with bullets. Southeast Washington is also beset by high unemployment and poverty.

Obama took communion at the end of the nearly two-hour service. He and his family have attended several churches since his inauguration but have not settled on joining a specific congregation.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Leveda brought back accused priest with conditions

**PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)**—A former Portland archbishop and current top Vatican official once returned a priest accused of sex abuse to administrative duty in Oregon on the condition that he be barred from direct contact with children or teenagers. Cardinal William Levada, as archbishop in Portland from 1986 to 1995, removed Father Joseph Baccellieri in 1992 after learning about 20-year-old complaints involving teenage boys but allowed him to return on a limited basis under close supervision in 1994. The move had conditions, according to a letter released Saturday in defense of Levada, who now oversees the office that handles cases of alleged abuse by priests. The archdiocese's clergy personnel director outlined a plan approved by Levada that prohibited Baccellieri from having contact with children or teenagers.

#### Space shuttle Discovery fuels for pre-dawn launch

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)**—NASA fueled Discovery late Sunday for a pre-dawn launch to the International Space Station, one of the last few shuttle flights. Discovery was scheduled to blast off at 6:21 a.m., nearly an

hour before sunrise. The shuttle and its crew of seven will deliver spare parts and science experiments to the nearly completed space station. Forecasters put the odds of good weather at 80 percent. Fueling was delayed because of a voltage spike in one of Discovery's fuel cells. Engineers suspected the brief surge was related to the cockpit lights, and said it posed no problem for liftoff.

#### Police: LA restaurant shooting victims targeted

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Authorities on Sunday continued searching for a suspect in a deadly weekend shooting at a San Fernando Valley restaurant as more details emerged, including the identities of the four victims and the fact that police believe the men were targeted. "We don't have a crazed gunman running around North Hollywood that presents an immediate threat to public safety, to anyone in their homes or businesses in the area," Los Angeles Police Deputy Chief Kirk Albanese said. "However, this is also not a random act of violence. This was an intentional act." The Hot Spot Cafe, a Mediterranean restaurant in North Hollywood, was filled with customers Saturday afternoon when at least one gunman walked in and opened fire, police said.



# Asia

## SKorean navy pursuing hijacked tanker off Somalia

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A South Korean navy destroyer is pursuing a South Korean-owned oil supertanker believed to have been hijacked by pirates off Somalia's coast, officials said.

The warship had been in the Gulf of Aden on anti-piracy operations and was ordered to move toward the tanker's expected location in Somali waters, South Korea's Foreign Ministry said late Sunday.

The navy received a call from the Samho Dream supertanker saying three pirates had boarded early Sunday, and then there was no more contact, a ministry official said. She spoke on condition of anonymity in line with ministry policy.

The vessel owner said Monday it had lost contact with the ship. "We currently cannot reach the Samho Dream's captain," Cho Yong-woo of Busan, South Korea-based Samho Shipping, told The Associated Press.

The Samho Dream had no security detail because Somali pirates were believed to be inactive in the area where the tanker was seized, Cho said.

The 300,000-ton-class Samho Dream was about 930 miles (1,500 kilometers) southeast of the Gulf of Aden at the time of the apparent hijacking, according to the Foreign Ministry. It had no new information to provide Monday.

The tanker was sailing from

Iraq to the U.S. state of Louisiana with 24 sailors—5 South Koreans and 19 Filipinos—on board, the ministry said.

Valero Energy Corp., an oil and gas refining company based in San Antonio, Texas, said it owns the cargo on board the tanker, but could not confirm the hijacking.

"We've had reports to that effect, but there's been no official confirmation," said Bill Day, a spokesman for Valero. But, he added, "Everything points to that."

Somalia, which has had no functioning government since 1991, is the world's top piracy hot spot. Piracy has emerged as a lucrative racket that brings in millions of dollars in ransoms.

## Dozens of miners pulled alive from China mine

XIANGNING, China (AP)—Dozens of Chinese miners were pulled out alive after being trapped for more than a week in a flooded coal mine, sparking cheers among the hundreds of rescue workers who had raced to save them and almost given up hope.

A live state television broadcast counted off the number of survivors—now up to 35—as miners wrapped in blankets were hurried to ambulances that sped to nearby hospitals.

State television said rescuers were preparing to pull as many

as 70 to 80 miners out of the mine, though conditions underground remain complicated. A total of 153 workers had been trapped.

"A miracle has finally happened," a rescue headquarters spokesman, Liu Dezheng, told reporters Monday morning.

The first rescue early Monday morning had seemed beyond hope for days before crews heard tapping from deep underground Friday.

Some of the soaked miners had hung from shaft walls by their belts for days. Hundreds of

rescuers were underground with hopes that glimpses of swinging lights and new tapping sounds meant even more survivors could be found.

Liu said the first batch of nine rescued miners, who were pulled out Monday morning shortly after midnight, were in stable condition. The state-run Xinhua News Agency said all nine were conscious and could say their name and hometown, but their bodies had suffered from being soaked for so long. Television footage showed at least one miner was brought out barefoot.

## Armed men kidnap Swiss man in southern RP

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Armed men on boats abducted a Swiss man from the beach resort he owned in a southern Philippine city where al-Qaida-linked militants operate, officials said Monday.

Police and navy operatives on fast crafts have been dispatched to pursue the abductors, at least five men on three outrigger boats, said Lt. Gen. Benjamin Dolorfino, the military chief in the region.

He said the hostage is Charlie Reith, 72, who has lived in Zam-

boanga for 40 years and owns a farm and the private beach resort in Patalon village.

A German man with Reith when he was kidnapped late Sunday managed to get away, Dolorfino added.

Amy Colonel Santiago Baluyot, commander of a local anti-terror task force, said Reith's German friend, Karl Reichling, managed to fight off the raiders. Reichling is also a resident of Zamboanga city and is married to a Filipino woman.

The abductors are believed

to have fled toward Pilas island in nearby Basilan province. No group has claimed responsibility and the motive is still unknown.

Consul Stephanie Perillard said the Swiss Embassy was in contact with local police about the case, but she refused to give more details.

Dolorfino said it was not yet clear if Abu Sayyaf extremists, notorious for kidnappings for ransom, bombings and beheadings, were to blame. Other kidnapping gangs operate in the area.

one of your boys here to represent your group." But beware, "SAIF-a" warns. With the U.S. stepping up its rocket attacks, "The brothers are very worried, in Waziristan all missiles hit very accurately. It means someone inside is involved."

### UN's Ban calls Aral Sea 'shocking disaster'

NUKUS, Uzbekistan (AP)—The drying up of the Aral Sea is one of the planet's most shocking environmental disasters, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said Sunday as he urged Central Asian leaders to step up efforts to solve the problem. Once the world's fourth-largest lake, the sea has shrunk by 90 percent since the rivers that feed it were largely diverted in a Soviet project to boost cotton production in the arid region. The shrunken sea has ruined the once-robust fishing economy and left fishing trawlers stranded in sandy wastelands, leaning over as if they dropped from the air. The sea's evaporation has left layers of highly salted sand, which winds can carry as far away as Scandinavia and Japan, and which plague local people with health troubles.

# World

## Suicide bombers target embassies in Iraq, kill 42



Iraqi security forces inspect the site of a car bomb attack near the Iranian Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, April 4, 2010. AP

BAGHDAD (AP)—Suicide attackers detonated three car bombs in quick succession near foreign embassies in Baghdad on Sunday, killing more than 40 people in coordinated strikes that Iraqi officials said were intended to disrupt efforts to form a new government.

The bombings followed the execution-style killings of 24 villagers in a Sunni area two days earlier, a spike in violence that suggests insurgents are seizing on the political uncertainty after the recent election

to try to destabilize the country as U.S. troops prepare to leave. No clear winner emerged from the March 7 vote.

Sunday's explosions went off within minutes of each other, starting shortly after 11 a.m. One struck near the Iranian Embassy and two others hit an area that houses several diplomatic missions, including the Egyptian Consulate and the German and Spanish embassies. It was not immediately known whether diplomatic staff were among the victims.

Authorities said they foiled two other attacks aimed at diplomatic targets by stopping the would-be bombers' vehicles and defusing the explosives.

Stunned victims in bloody clothes were loaded into ambulances as gray smoke rose over Baghdad.

"I saw children screaming," Hassan Karim, 32, who owns a clothing shop in Baghdad, told The Associated Press. "Cars were crashing into each other in streets, trying to find a way to flee."

## Vatican's Easter Mass infused with defense of pope

VATICAN CITY (AP)—It was the Catholic calendar's holiest moment—the Mass celebrating the resurrection of Christ. But with Pope Benedict XVI accused of failing to protect children from abusive priests, Easter Sunday also was a high-profile opportunity to play defense.

"Holy Father, on your side are the people of God," Cardinal Angelo Sodano told the pontiff, whom victims of clergy sexual abuse accuse of helping to shape and per-

petuate a climate of cover-up. Sodano, dean of the College of Cardinals, dismissed those claims as "petty gossip."

The ringing tribute at the start of a Mass attended by tens of thousands in St. Peter's Square marked an unusual departure from the Vatican's Easter rituals, infusing the tradition-steeped religious ceremony with an air of a papal pep rally.

Dressed in gold robes and shielded from a cool drizzle by a canopy, Benedict looked

weary during much of the Mass, the highlight of a heavy Holy Week schedule. But as he listened intently to Sodano's paean, a smile broke across the pope's face, and when the cardinal finished speaking, Benedict rose from his chair in front of the altar to embrace him.

The pontiff hasn't responded to accusations that he did too little to protect children from pedophile priests, even as sex abuse scandals threaten to overshadow his papacy.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Report: 2nd Moscow suicide bomber was teacher

MOSCOW (AP)—The second Moscow suicide bomber may have been a 28-year-old school teacher from the southern province of Dagestan, a Russian newspaper reported Sunday, quoting the woman's father as saying he recognized her in a photograph. Rasul Magomedov told Novaya Gazeta that an acquaintance sent him a photograph of the subway suicide bomber that has been widely circulated on the Internet. "My wife and I immediately recognized our daughter Maryam," the newspaper quotes him as saying. "The last time my wife saw our daughter she was wearing the same red scarf as in the photograph."

#### Dubai jail sentence upheld for UK kissing couple

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—A Dubai appeals court on Sunday upheld a one-month prison sentence for a British couple convicted of kissing in a restaurant. The pair landed in court after an Emirati woman complained about the public kiss, which the couple insisted was just a peck on the cheek. They were arrested in Novem-

ber and convicted of inappropriate behavior and illegal drinking. Cosmopolitan Dubai has the most relaxed social codes in the conservative Gulf, but authorities enforce strict decency laws and regularly crack down on people accused of pushing the limits, which can include everything from wearing a mini skirt to losing one's temper in traffic.

#### Castro: Cuba will resist hunger strike 'blackmail'

HAVANA (AP)—Raul Castro called mounting international pressure over Cuba's human rights record one of the strongest assaults its communist government has ever faced and vowed not to yield to the "blackmail" of a high-profile hunger striker. In a 45-minute nationally televised speech, Cuba's president said his government has the right to beat back any efforts to destabilize it. "We will never yield to the blackmail of any country or group of countries, no matter how powerful they may be, whatever happens," said Castro, who replaced his older brother Fidel—first temporarily, then permanently—following his emergency intestinal surgery in 2006. "Let them know that if they try to corner us, we will defend ourselves, first of all with truth and principles."

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Defiant Thai protesters fan out in nervous capital

BANGKOK (AP)—Thousands of defiant anti-government demonstrators fanned out to other parts of Thailand's capital on Monday after ignoring police orders to end their occupation of Bangkok's paralyzed commercial district. Their major target was the Election Commission, where columns of "Red Shirts" threatened to storm the building unless the commission chief met them for talks. The protesters, mostly farmers from impoverished provincial areas, have sworn not to let up their pressure until the government of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva steps down and new elections are called.

#### Web chats point to al-Qaida's Indonesian links

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—It plays out like any ordinary chat between friends on Yahoo Messenger, but the subject matter is chilling: "thekiller" is looking to mesh his Indonesian militant network more deeply with al-Qaida in its Pakistani heartland. "Come to Pak," he is told by "SAIF-a", the Pakistani at the other end. "The seniors say, send



# Overdrive



Hyundai's Equus luxury sedan will come standard with an iPad.

## Hyundai to launch luxury car—with iPad included

By JERRY HIRSCH  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

**I**t just might be the world's first paperless car: Hyundai Motor America will include an iPad—loaded with a digital version of the thick owner's manual—with the luxury sedan it plans to launch this fall.

The iPad pitch is aimed to tap into the hype over Apple Inc.'s sleek new tablet computer, which was released Saturday, and will be included as part of the package for consumers who drive off with Hyundai's Equus luxury sedan.



People who purchase the South Korean automaker's first venture into the super-premium auto market will also be able to use one of the tablet's pre-loaded applications to make service appointments.

"They are trying to position themselves as a modern, in-touch, technologically savvy brand. It is the sort of innovation you would expect from BMW or Mercedes, but not Hyundai," said Mike Boxham, director of insight and research at Ball State University's Center for Media Design.

Known for budget cars such as the \$9,970 Accent and the \$14,145 Elantra, Hyundai is trying to break into the high-end market with the Equus, which the manufacturer compares to the Lexus LS 460 and Mercedes-Benz S550 sedans. The three vehicles are similar in size and are equipped with engines that have about the same strength—in the 380-horsepower range.

(Hyundai is pursuing a strategy similar to one used in the late 1980s by Honda Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Corp., which expanded their portfolio of products by moving into higher-profit luxury cars with their respective Acura and Lexus brands.)

The Equus will sell for \$50,000 to \$60,000, according to Hyundai executives. The exact price will be announced closer to the sales launch. But they note it will be thousands of dollars less than the Lexus, which has a sticker price of \$65,380, and the Mercedes, which has a suggested price of \$91,600.

And, reasoned the auto manufacturer, customers who would be inclined to spend more on their cars were the same people who would be drawn to spendy technological gadgets.

"We thought it was keeping the vehicle in tune with the owners we expect to attract," said Chris Hosford, spokesman for the U.S. sales division of the automaker.

But whether Hyundai will be able to compete effectively in that market—even with offering a \$499 iPad as an incentive—is questionable, said Rebecca Lindland, auto industry analyst at IHS Global Insight.

"The car itself looks great and is high-end, but I think people will have a difficult time justifying paying that type of money for a Hyundai," Lindland said.

## Drive newer cars once a week to prevent battery drain

By PAUL BRAND  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION:** Last fall we purchased a 2008 Lexus ES 350. During winter we drove our older car and used the Lexus infrequently. On multiple occasions we found the battery in the Lexus dead after sitting 15 to 18 days. The dealer checked the electrical system current draw and found it normal. The dealer indicates the car must be used at least every 10 to 14 days to keep the battery charged. Is the dealer correct?

**ANSWER:** For many newer vehicles, yes. Current draw to maintain memory and functionality of many computer controlled systems on today's vehicles can drain the battery in a couple of weeks to the point it won't start the vehicle.

Your options include starting and driving the vehicle more frequently, mounting a battery master disconnect switch or disconnecting the battery—with the hassles of losing presets for the radio, seats, HVAC system, etc.—when the vehicle will be sitting more than a week or so, or connecting a "float" charger or battery maintainer to the battery to keep it charged. Driving the vehicle once a week is the easy answer.

**Q:** I have a 2007 Ford Explorer. Wet or dry, when you push on the brakes they squeak. It is a horrible sound and very embarrassing. We took it to a Ford dealer and had the brakes checked and they are OK. What causes the squeak and how can we stop it?

**A:** According to Ford, brake noises such as intermittent squealing, groaning, moaning and clicking sounds are con-

sidered "acceptable" conditions, with the exception of continuous squealing caused by uneven brake pad wear. By the very nature of disc brakes, where a rotating iron rotor is squeezed between two brake pads under extremely high hydraulic pressure, noises created by vibrations between pads and rotor are common, relatively normal and do not affect or reduce braking ability.

First, inspect the pads and rotors for taper, wear or scoring. If all components are within specs, try having the surfaces of the rotors scuffed with a non-directional finish pattern to facilitate mating pad to rotor. The pads can also be lightly sanded on a glass plate to roughen their surface to aid the mating process. Then, a series of very firm brake applications from 30-40 mph down to 5 mph—in a completely safe environment, of course—will help seat the fresh surfaces of pads to ro-

tor. The concept is simple—reduce the vibrations between pads and rotors to reduce the noise.

If all else fails, upgraded or alternate brake pads with different friction material can often reduce annoying brake noises.

**Q:** What is the best way to clean and prevent carbon build-up, especially in the EGR system? I found a photo online similar to what happened in my 1999 Expedition.

**A:** The photo included with the question shows small areas of heavy carbon build-up in the exhaust port for the EGR—exhaust gas recirculation—valve. Some residue of combustion carbon on valves, tops of pistons, spark plugs and exhaust ports is normal. Heavier deposits can occur due to lower-quality gasoline, too low an octane rating, cold engine oper-

ating temperatures and excessively rich fuel/air mixture.

How to remove the carbon? In the "good ol' days" of carburetors, several full throttle blasts up to speed to "blow out the carbon" was popular sport. Today, a professional induction cleaning with special chemicals or the DIY "tune-up" with a fuel system cleaner can remove existing carbon and, used periodically, help keep combustion chambers clean.

*Paul Brand is author of How to Repair Your Car and an automotive trouble-shooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via e-mail at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.*



# Life & Style

## Veteran of 'The Pacific' recalls war, camaraderie

By LYNN ELBER  
AP TELEVISION WRITER

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Dr. Sidney Phillips has become the voice of the men of "The Pacific," HBO television's World War II miniseries.

He is the survivor among the drama's four central figures, with the others claimed by the war or the decades that followed.

The 85-year-old physician has shouldered the task of spokesman with grace and good humor, fielding media interviews and, at the request of The Associated Press, online queries from viewers about his combat experience and life afterward.

Phillips, who was 17 when he enlisted in the U.S. Marines the day after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, endured four months of brutal fighting on Guadalcanal and joined in the invasion of another Pacific theater island, New Britain.

He returned to Mobile, Alabama, where he reared three

children with his wife, Mary, who died in 2000.

"The Pacific," with actor Ashton Holmes as the young Pfc. Phillips, debuted March 14 and airs new episodes at 9 p.m. EDT Sunday through May 16. Phillips answered questions by phone from his home.

**Q: What is your best memory of that chapter of your life, and what is your worst?**

**Phillips:** "There was so much comedy, there was so much joking, there was so much insulting one another; Marines never said anything nice to one another. ... I still don't know if the public understands that foolishness and nonsense were very important. I think men hid behind that, rather than to say, 'I'm scared to death.'"

"I really think the worst memory were the living conditions: the standing in line for two tablespoons of beans and a tablespoon of corned beef for four hours on a troop ship. ... There were two meals a day, and that went on for weeks and

weeks and weeks. Then, when we got ashore, we had a whole regiment, which is 3,500 men, with dysentery, diarrhea and no toilet paper. If there hadn't been an ocean there, we would have been in serious trouble."

**Q: Do you feel your experiences as a Marine shaped the rest of your life, and if so, how?**

**Phillips:** "Oh, absolutely. I was a 17-year-old boy right out of high school with no strong discipline in my life, and the Marine Corps does that. It puts discipline in your life. You quit whining about this and that and the other thing and you focus on whatever has to be done and you do it, really, for the rest of your life."

**Q: If such a devastating attack like Pearl Harbor were to happen today, could our young people rise up to the challenge as your generation did?**

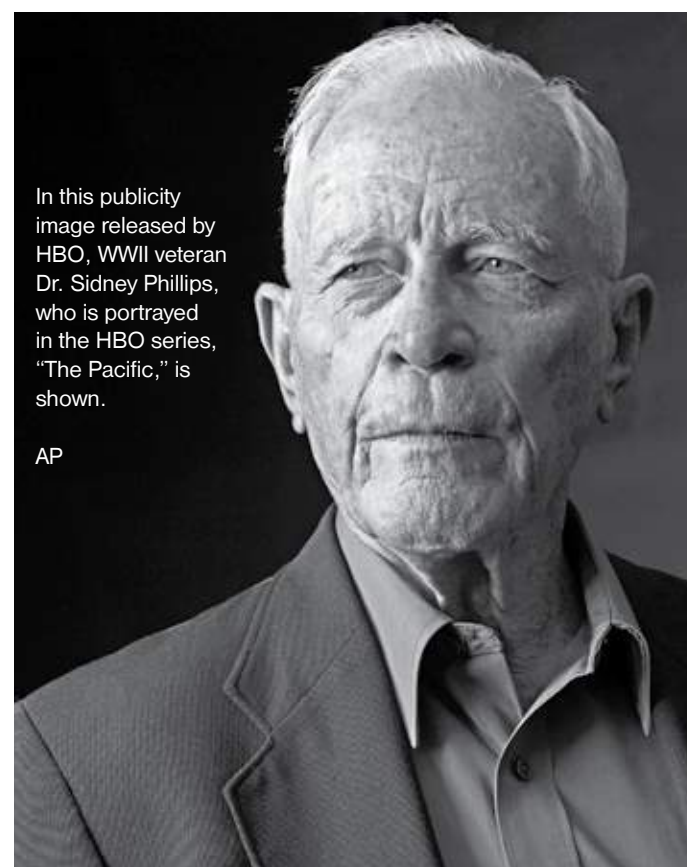
**Phillips:** "I believe they would. I certainly hope they would. People ask me frequently what do I think about the series in general, 'The Pacific,' and I say

I hope it will revive patriotism and bring back teaching history to the young people, and what a wonderful country it is and how much blood it has taken to bring us to where we are."

**Q: As someone who served at such a vital yet devastating time for our country, how do you see the United States' involvement in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and President Obama's long-term plan to end it? Also, would you serve in this war, enlisting likewise immediately after 9/11?**

**Phillips:** "Today, the war seems to be conducted by the politicians. I think they need to turn the war back over to the military. ... I would enlist. It disciplined me and gave me purpose in life."

**Q: "When the Japanese were bombing the trenches before attacking, how did men protect themselves? What were your thoughts during the bombardment and right before you knew they were going to attack?"**



In this publicity image released by HBO, WWII veteran Dr. Sidney Phillips, who is portrayed in the HBO series, "The Pacific," is shown.

AP

**Phillips:** "We tried to dig all the way to the center of the Earth, mostly. We would just hunker down and pray and hold on and hope the next round (bullet) was not yours. Pray and hold on; that's all you could do."

**Q: What helped keep you**

**going and on mission throughout the war?**

**Phillips:** "There's a number of answers you could give, but the one that is foremost in my mind is your trust in one another, support of one another, your dependence upon one another."

## Q&A Fey, Carell hit the town in 'Date Night'

By JAKE COYLE  
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Thursday nights on NBC, Tina Fey is Liz Lemon and Steve Carell is Michael Scott. Neither is particularly functional.

In the new big-screen comedy "Date Night," however, Fey and Carell discover unforeseen talents, playing married parents whose night out in Manhattan turns into a wild adventure due to a case of mistaken identity.

The pairing is fitting. Fey and Carell are not just two of NBC's most famous, award-winning faces, whose shows normally sit side by side. They're both alumni of the famed bastion of improvisation, Second City.

In a recent interview, Carell, 47, and Fey, 39, discussed their collaboration, which was directed by Shawn Levy ("Night at the Museum"). After the interview, Fey stood up and did a "cheeseburger macaroni" dance, excited that dinner with her daughter was approaching.

**AP: Do you both consider yourselves improv comedians at heart, rather than standup comedians?**

**Fey:** For sure.

**CARELL:** Yeah, I think I'd fail miserably.

**AP: "Weekend Update" had a standup feel sometimes.**

**Fey:** It is joke-telling, but I never wanted to do it alone. I



In this Feb. 18, 2010 file photo, actors Steve Carell, left, and Tina Fey pose for a portrait at the Hudson hotel while promoting the film "Date Night" New York, Monday, Feb. 18, 2010.

did it with Jimmy (Fallon) and when Jimmy left, I had the opportunity to do it alone or do it with someone else. I was like, "No, no." Telling jokes alone, you're a standup, but telling jokes with a buddy, you have someone to go to if the jokes fail; that's what I'm used to.

**CARELL:** You're used to jokes failing.

**Fey:** Yes, all my jokes fail.

**AP: Steve, you're renowned for your niceness, while, Tina, you've recently said that you represent "normalcy." That makes for an interesting combo: nice and normal.**

**CARELL:** It's our vaudeville act.

**Fey:** Normalcy and Niceness go to the circus. It's like Goofus and Gallant.

**AP: In "Date Night," you have basically a "North By Northwest" premise of mistaken identity. Only instead of a chiseled Mount Rushmore, there's the chiseled naked torso of Mark Wahlberg.**

**Fey:** An American treasure in itself.

**CARELL:** The finale was going to take place on his chest.

**AP: Steve, you co-wrote "The 40-Year-Old Virgin"**

**with Judd Apatow and, Tina, you wrote the screenplay to "Mean Girls." Is that something you'd like to do more?**

**CARELL:** Sure. We're both faced with the same problem—just finding the time to do it. While we're doing the show, there's really not a lot of extra time.

**Fey:** And we both have young children.

**CARELL:** I would like for my kids to at least have some familiarity with who I am: "It's the man from TV!" But there are a lot of good writers out there. I don't feel that I have to control

every aspect of things that I appear in. You learn a lot performing someone else's writing.

**AP: Is it hard to relinquish some control, Tina?**

**Fey:** No, it felt like a vacation to come in and have this script that we were definitely allowed to give input on.

**AP: Do you both discuss life at NBC when you get together? Is it awkward to be there right now?**

**CARELL:** We're outside of that whole world. They leave us alone for the most part. They were good enough to leave both of our shows on the air.

**Fey:** If NBC was in better shape, our show wouldn't be on the air.

**CARELL:** No, ours wouldn't be, either. So that's actually worked to our advantage.

**AP: Your spouses must have had input on this film.**

**Fey:** He purposefully didn't read the script and so when he saw the screening, he saw it fully. We're so used to being completely enmeshed. (Fey's husband, Jeff Richmond, is the composer on "30 Rock.") He was glad that he waited—a comedy abstinence program.

**CARELL:** Parts of our married lives have become part of the movie. The aspect that the husband leaves all drawers and cabinets open, both Jeff and I have that as a problem.

**Fey:** I do wear a retainer sometimes.

**AP: Steve, you've been able to work in movies more frequently, do you have any sense of where you want to take it in the next few years?**

**CARELL:** It doesn't sound sincere but it is: I'm always surprised that I'm working, that I have a job doing what we're doing.

Tina felt the same way the first few days of shooting. So, no, I tend not to plan ahead. Five years ago, I could have never imagined any of this happening. I try to just enjoy it. If I could continue to do this sort of thing, I don't have any pretense of doing serious drama or directing. If any of that happens, fine. Maybe I'll do nothing, because I'm very good at that. I can get lazy. I don't think I'm a very driven person. When I have work, I work very hard. But when I don't work, I really don't do anything. I could easily just fade away.

**Fey:** Just Guttenberg it. (Steve Guttenberg) was just like, "I made money and I'm going to go enjoy my life." It's genius.

**AP:** Tina, it seemed like your transition from a writer to a performer on "SNL" was a very conscious decision to challenge yourself. Do you have any similar goal for movies?

**Fey:** It's weird, because I already feel like now I'm at an age where in some ways the goal is: How soon can I not work? There's a lot of satisfaction in the work, but it's been an overwhelming amount of work for the last four years. I thought I was working hard before that. Now I know I was a fool. For me, it's more about carving out a manageable future. It's making a living wage off of stuff I want to do: produce a small movie with my friends, that would be great.



By **DAVID GERMAIN**  
AP MOVIE WRITER

**S**ANTA MONICA, California (AP)—The romantic melodrama machine that is Nicholas Sparks keeps running at full capacity.

The prolific author, whose weepy love stories include the Hollywood hits “The Notebook” and “Dear John,” returned to the big screen last week with “The Last Song,” which he wrote specifically for Miley Cyrus.

It was not just a case of writing an original movie script for Cyrus. Although the screenplay did come first, Sparks developed the story with the same detail he applies to his books. Working backward, once the script was done, Sparks sat down to write the novel.

Having already written the movie version, Sparks thought the novel would be a breeze. No such luck.

“After I wrote the screenplay, I thought, oh great, this is it. I’m going to do a novelization. Nope. That novel was so challenging to write on a number of levels that had nothing to do with the screenplay,” Sparks said in an interview.

“You want to make it its own unique

work, because primarily, I am a novelist. I wanted a really good novel.”

Sparks, 44, finished the book as production was ready to start on the movie last year. The novel was published a few months later.

“The Last Song” casts “Hannah Montana” star Cyrus as a sullen teen reluctantly spending a summer with her estranged father (Greg Kinnear), a pianist and composer who hopes his gifted daughter will resume her own studies at the keyboard.

Sparks let Cyrus choose her character’s name, and he wove in a few other themes and attributes in which she was interested. Cyrus never was looking over Sparks’ shoulder as he wrote, though.

“I let him do his thing. I wouldn’t want someone to do that to me when I’m song writing. It’s very difficult when something’s not finished, and people are giving you advice,” Cyrus said. “At the end, I was definitely thrilled. If there was anything, I would have told him, but there was nothing wrong.”

As usual for Sparks’ stories, romance and tragedy mix throughout “The Last Song.” Sparks has endured his own misfortunes: his mother died in a horseback-riding accident, his father in a car crash and his sister died of cancer.

The beefy former college track

star looks more the sort to turn to action thrillers than love stories. Yet since “The Notebook” came out in 1996, Sparks has owned the teary romance genre.

“The Notebook” “was a story I thought I could write, and I had some success. So I’ve literally kept doing that over and over, and I found that it is a genre that is immensely difficult,” Sparks said. “It’s really hard to make a career out of it. And why is that? Because you read these novels with a different goal than you read other novels.

“You read thrillers because you know kind of what to expect. You know that in the end, the bad guy’s going to get caught. You read me because you don’t know what to expect. Is it going to be happy? Do they get together? Do they not? Does someone die? Does Richard Gere drive off a cliff in South America? You don’t know, and so you read for a surprise. And to be honest, the more books you write, the harder it is to surprise people.”

He has managed to hold Hollywood’s interest. Along with “The Last

Song,” “The Notebook” and “Dear John,” Sparks’ books “Message in a Bottle” and “A Walk to Remember” have been adapted into movies, while “The Lucky One” also is headed to the big screen.

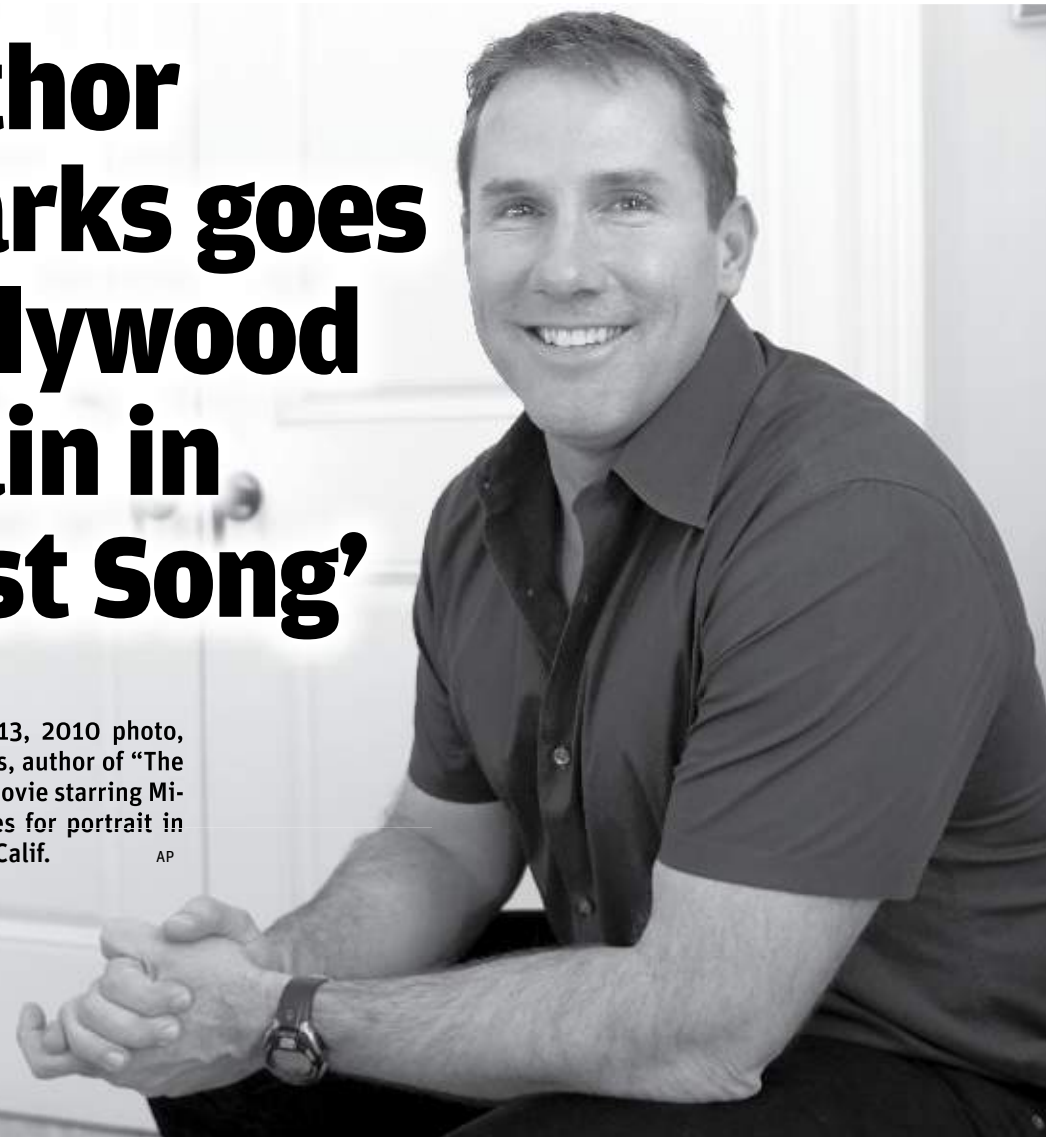
Meanwhile, Sparks began his latest novel Feb. 17 and needs to finish it by May so his publisher can have it out this fall.

Does he like that sort of pressure?

“No, I do not,” Sparks said. “I’m not a happy person working under it, but I work well under it.”

## Author Sparks goes Hollywood again in ‘Last Song’

In this March 13, 2010 photo, Nicholas Sparks, author of “The Last Song,” a movie starring Miley Cyrus, poses for portrait in Santa Monica, Calif. AP



### CELEBRITY EXTRA

By **CINDY ELAVSKY**  
KING FEATURES SYND., INC.

**Q**: This season of “The Celebrity Apprentice” is really good so far. I love the different personalities clashing as they try to work together on their challenges. I was wondering, who decides what the challenges will be?—Hank F., via e-mail

**A**: Ivanka Trump, wunderkind daughter of mogul Donald Trump, recently revealed on Twitter that they all—Ivanka, Donald and brother Donald Jr.—throw out ideas for all the different challenges and then decide collectively which ones they’ll do throughout the season. Next season “The Apprentice” is going back to its original format of casting regular people to compete for a job within the Trump empire. If you are interested in auditioning, go to nbc.com for all the details.

**Q**: I read somewhere that KISS frontman Paul Stanley went to the “Fame” high school majoring in art. Is that true?—Matt H., Akron, Ohio

**A**: Paul Stanley attend the High School of Music & Art in New York City. The “Fame” high school was the High School of Performing Arts, which later merged with the High School of Music & Art to form Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts. I spoke with Paul recently, and he told me about his high-school experience: “It’s funny, because when I first saw ‘Fame,’ and then I went to my school, I was expecting to see people dancing on the cars, but it wasn’t happening. But I ended up putting art aside at some point, because for me,



Paul Stanley

I’m just not a fan of being told what to do by somebody else. Some people are cut out for listening to authority, and some people are cut out for going their own way. I just sort of soured on art.” But now, Paul is back in the art scene, but on HIS terms. You can see Paul’s artwork at paulstanley.com, and also check to see if he is touring with his art in your area.

**Q**: “In Plain Sight” is one of our favorite shows. Will it be back for a third season?—Jackie D., via e-mail

**A**: The USA Network’s popular drama centering on a Deputy U.S. Marshall for the Federal Witness Protection program began its third season on March 31. The show has moved to Wednesday nights at 10/11 p.m. Central. Season Three will consist of 16 episodes—and if you need to catch up on any previous episodes, season one and two are available on DVD.

**Q**: Were Jordan and Jeff, teammates from “The Amazing Race,” on “Big Brother” together?—Lee R., via e-mail

**A**: Jordan Lloyd and Jeff Schroeder met while they both were contestants on “Big Brother 11” in 2009. As you may know, Jordan won a half-million dollars on the show, and also walked away with Jeff’s heart. Jordan was unable to repeat her winning magic, as the pair was eliminated from “The Amazing Race” in March.

Write to Cindy at King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475; or e-mail her at letters@cindyelavsky.com. For more news and extended interviews, visit [www.celebrityextraonline.com](http://www.celebrityextraonline.com) and [twitter.com/CelebrityExtra](http://twitter.com/CelebrityExtra).

## Time to test your smarts on the latest celebrity news

By **JULIE HINDS**  
DETROIT FREE PRESS

After a week of updates on Sandra Bullock’s marital woes—her husband, Jesse James, is the latest poster boy for infidelity scandals—it’s time to move on to the rest of the celebrity news. Please. Enough puns about her being blindsided already.

Is there anything else happening of interest in show biz? You betcha, from a new TV show for Sarah Palin to a famous director’s feud with a cable news star.

So much is going on lately that there’s enough for a quiz. Good luck and think happy thoughts for Sandy.

**1. In the great 3-D movie debate, which actor said this to USA Today about the cinematic trend? “I’m a grown man; I don’t need to see things jumping out at me. If I want to see a bird flying toward me, I’ll walk out into my yard. It seems like a great effect but not much more.”**

- a) Clint Eastwood
- b) George Clooney
- c) Zach Galifianakis

**2. This cast member told Entertainment Weekly that he or she is leaving “Grey’s Anatomy”:**

- a) Patrick Dempsey
- b) Katherine Heigl
- c) Ellen Pompeo

**3. At a press conference to promote the upcoming DVD release**

**of his latest movie, he lashed out at Fox News host Glenn Beck and offered to debate him, according to the Hollywood Reporter. Tell us which director, a recent Oscar nominee, it was.**

**4. “It’s boredom,” said Brad Pitt to Britain’s Sun. “No other reason than that.” The actor was talking about something that his fans have been noticing recently:**

- a) His scraggly beard
- b) His constant traveling
- c) His habit of making “Ocean’s 11” sequels

**5. On the “Dancing With the Stars” season premiere, Kate Gosselin’s Viennese waltz was described as looking like her partner Tony Danza was “pushing a shopping cart around the floor.” Tell us which “Dancing” judge said that.**

**6. Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin will star in a TV series that’s being produced by Mark Burnett of “Survivor” fame. It will be:**

- a) A series about her home state of Alaska for TLC
- b) A “Real Housewives of Alaska” series for Bravo
- c) A snow-machine racing competition for the Speed channel

**7. In a meandering commentary that seemed longer than Lee DeWyze’s performance of the 1967 classic “The Letter,” Ellen DeGeneres**

**sounded a little like Paula Abdul when she compared the “American Idol” contestant to:**

- a) Her favorite sweater
- b) Her favorite singer
- c) Her favorite pen

**8. The Hollywood Reporter says Chris Evans will play Captain America in a movie. Tell us the superhero he portrayed in another recent comic book movie and sequel.**

**9. Rosie O’Donnell, whose daytime talk show ended in 2002, is planning to return to TV in 2011 with:**

- a) A late-night talk show for Lifetime
- b) A home decorating show for HGTV
- c) A syndicated daytime talk show expected to debut around the time “The Oprah Winfrey Show” ends

■■■

### ANSWERS

1. c) Zach Galifianakis
2. b) Katherine Heigl
3. James Cameron of “Avatar”
4. a) His scraggly beard
5. Bruno Tonioli
6. a) A series about her home state of Alaska for TLC
7. c) Her favorite pen
8. Evans played the Human Torch in the “Fantastic Four” movies.
9. c) A syndicated daytime talk show expected to debut around the time “The Oprah Winfrey Show” ends



# 'Avatar' star Worthington goes Greek in 'Titans'

By DAVID GERMAIN  
AP MOVIE WRITER

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (AP)—Sam Worthington has gone from part-human, part-alien warrior of the distant future in "Avatar" to half-human, half-god warrior of the ancient past in "Clash of the Titans."

He also has gone overnight from an Australian actor little-known outside his home country to an international star, his Hollywood breakout starting last year with one of the lead roles in "Terminator Salvation."

"My whole life is changed," Worthington, 33, said during an interview at the recent ShoWest convention for theater owners, where he received an award as male star of the year. "There's a difference between having a career in Australia, a successful career there, and a successful



In this March 21, 2010 file photo, actor Sam Worthington, from "Clash of the Titans", poses for a portrait in Beverly Hills, Calif.

ourselves with it and then just ramped ours up to 11. We've got no bones about it. Ours is a fun ride," Worthington said. "Some movies you do because they're a hell of a lot of fun. That's what this one was. Me in a skirt with a rubber sword, killing monsters. It ain't that hard. That's a good day at the office."

Trained at Australia's National Institute of Dramatic Art, Worthington's earlier credits include such smaller films as "Somersault," "Bootmen" and "Dirty Deeds" and bigger productions such as "Hart's War," "The Great Raid" and "Rogue."

Worthington has shot two smaller tales—the romantic drama "Last Night" with Keira Knightley and the thriller "The Debt" with Helen Mirren—and is about to start work on the crime story "The Texas Killing Fields," produced by Michael Mann.

He laughs when people ask him how he aims to balance big and small movies, though. Worthington said he has not worried about balance; he will take the biggest jobs Hollywood might toss his way.

"I'm lucky. I've already had a career. This is chapter two. Some people in my position would get nervous to say things like that," Worthington said. "I did 15 movies in Australia, and they were movies that I would go to see. Now I'm on a bigger level. My whole big thing was, if you get to do these massive blockbuster movies that get out in the zeitgeist and the audiences are embracing them—I'm going to see 'Clash of the Titans'—so why not have the opportunity to actually be in them?"

Worthington said he only vaguely remembered the original movie.

"We obviously reacquainted

I should do that."

The big career move most fans will clamor for is more on the "Avatar" front. Cameron's science-fiction epic has become the biggest modern blockbuster with \$2.7 billion worldwide and climbing.

Before "Avatar" hit theaters last December, Cameron said he had ideas for two sequels if the first one was a success. No definite plans have been announced, though, and Worthington will not volunteer any information.

"What can I give away? I can't give away anything, because you know Jim. His SAS team will come through the door and tackle me," Worthington said. "He's definitely got ideas, but he's the boss. I can't talk out of school."

Yet it is hard to imagine Cameron would not return to "Avatar" given the demand and the prospects for taking his pioneering visual effects even further.

"We've always said it just comes down to the audience. If 'Avatar' bombed, we're not going to go and make a second one, are we?" Worthington said. "I think the deal was, if we make a billion, we'll consider the massive undertaking, the manpower. We made, what, close to three billion? We're screwed now, aren't we? We have to make two, three, four, five, six, because audiences have definitely found an affinity with it."

"But Jim isn't going to go make it just to make money. He doesn't need to do that. He's got to find the thing inside 'Avatar 2' that pushes him. I think I'm not talking out of school by saying that he'd say that he needs a challenge himself. So whatever he sets out to do, it's definitely going to be groundbreaking again."

career worldwide."

Stardom has been in the wings for a while, since James Cameron chose Worthington more than three years ago to star in "Avatar" as a paralyzed human who finds new life in the body of a 10-foot (3-meter)-tall blue alien on a distant moon.

While on hiatus during the long production of "Avatar," Worthington shot "Terminator Salvation," a continuation of Cameron's own franchise about humanity's future war with machines.

Then after finishing "Avatar," Worthington moved on to "Clash of the Titans," a remake of the 1981 adventure in which he stars as Greek hero Perseus, caught up in a battle between humanity and the Olympian gods, including his father, Zeus.

Worthington said he only vaguely remembered the original movie.

"We obviously reacquainted

## 'Titans' battles to No. 1 with \$61.4M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The gods of Mount Olympus are the new rulers of the weekend box office.

The ancient Greek action remake "Clash of the Titans" debuted at No. 1 with \$61.4 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. Adding Thursday night preview screenings, the movie totaled \$64.1 million.

Released by Warner Bros., "Clash of the Titans" features "Avatar" star Sam Worthington as demigod hero Perseus and Liam Neeson as his dad, Zeus, king of the Olympian deities.

Opening at No. 2 with \$30.2 million was Lionsgate's sequel "Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too?", reuniting filmmaker Perry with Janet Jackson and other co-stars for another comic drama about eight friends and their relationships.

The previous weekend's top movie, DreamWorks Animation's Viking adventure "How to Train Your Dragon," ran a close third with \$29.2 million, raising its 10-day total to \$92.3 million.

Miley Cyrus' teen drama "The Last Song" pre-

miered at No. 4 with \$16.2 million. The Disney release raised its total to \$25.6 million since opening Wednesday.

With \$8.3 million, Disney's "Alice in Wonderland" came in at No. 5 for the weekend, raising its domestic total to \$309.8 million and its worldwide haul to \$722 million.

"If three out of the top five films doesn't spell a mandate for 3-D, I don't know what does," said

Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com.

Chuck Viane, head of distribution for Disney, said "Dear John" opened in a less-crowded

marketplace the weekend before Valentine's Day, when women are more in the mood to see a love story.

"The Last Song" held its own among a flurry of other big releases, establishing Cyrus as a box-office draw without her "Hannah Montana" alter-ego, Viane said.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

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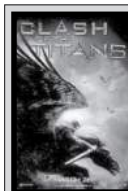
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**NOW SHOWING**



**Clash Of The Titans 2D**

Fri through Sun 1:25 4:25 7:20 9:45  
 Monday 1:25 4:25 7:20  
 Tue through Thurs 4:25 7:20

**Sam Worthington**  
 Fantasy • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

The 1981 mythological fantasy adventure Clash of the Titans is resurrected in this remake from Incredible Hulk director Louis Leterrier and veteran writer Lawrence Kasdan. The joint Legendary Films/Warner Bros. production focuses on Perseus (Sam Worthington), the mortal hero made to carry out a series of quests by the gods in order to win the hand of the imprisoned princess Andromeda.



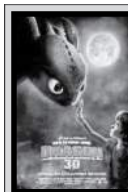
**Why Did I Get Married Too?**

Fri through Sun 1:05 4:20 7:05 9:40  
 Monday 1:05 4:20 7:05  
 Tue through Thurs 4:20 7:05

**Janet Jackson, Tyler Perry**  
 Comedy • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

Gathered together in the Bahamas for their annual one-week reunion, four close couples eagerly reconnect, sharing news about their lives and relationships. But their intimate week in paradise is disrupted by the unexpected arrival of Sheila's ex-husband, Mike, who hopes to break up her new marriage with Troy and win her back.



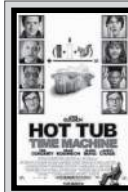
**How To Train Your Dragon**

Fri through Sun 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30  
 Monday 1:00 4:00 7:00  
 Tue through Thurs 4:00 7:00

**Gerald Butler, America Ferrera**  
 Children, Family • Rated PG

### Synopsis

The son of a Viking chief must capture a dragon in order to mark his passage into manhood and prove his worthiness to the tribe in directors Lorna Cook and David Soren's adaptation of Cressida Cowell's popular children's book. Gerard Butler, America Ferrera, Jonah Hill, Jay Baruchel, and Christopher Mintz-Plasse provide the voices for the DreamWorks Animation production.



**Hot Tub Time Machine**

Fri through Sun 1:30 4:05 7:10 9:55  
 Monday 1:30 4:05 7:10  
 Tue through Thurs 4:05 7:10

**John Cusack, Robert Corddry**  
 Comedy • Rated R



**Diary of Wimpy Kid**

Fri through Sun 1:20 4:10 7:30 9:35  
 Monday 1:20 4:10 7:30  
 Tue through Thurs 4:10 7:30

**Zachary Gordon, Steven Zahn**  
 Children's, Family • Rated PG



**The Green Zone**

Fri through Sun 1:10 4:30 7:25 9:50  
 Monday 1:10 4:30 7:25  
 Tue through Thurs 4:30 7:25

**Matt Damon, Greg Kinnear**  
 Drama • Rated R



**Alice in Wonderland**

Fri through Sun 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00  
 Monday 1:15 4:15 7:15  
 Tue through Thurs 4:15 7:15

**Johnny Depp, Anne Hathaway**  
 Fantasy • Rated PG

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# Van Gogh painting reproduced in breakfast cereal

**SMITHFIELD, Utah (AP)**—High school students in northern Utah have completed a 6,400-square-foot replica of Vincent van Gogh's "Starry Night" out of breakfast cereal.

Sky View High School teacher Doyle Geddes led more than 150 students on the project, which used two tons of colorful Malt-O-Meal spread across the gymnasium floor.

The project took about a week and was completed Saturday. Crews spread a plastic sheet on the floor, then created a grid to outline the painting's famous design. Each space was assigned a color to correspond with the painting and filled with cereal.

Geddes says he wanted to find a way to better connect students with art.

The replica was taken apart later Saturday. The cereal was given to a farmer to feed pigs.



In this photo taken Saturday, April 3, 2010, humanities students use cereal to create a large scale reproduction of Vincent van Gogh's "Starry Night" on the gym floor at Sky View High in Smithfield, Utah.

## Levine to have 2nd back operation, miss Met season

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Conductor James Levine will have a second back operation and will miss the rest of his increasingly diminished Metropolitan Opera season.

The 66-year-old, who is the music director of the Met and the Boston Symphony Orchestra, had surgery last fall to repair a herniated disk in his back and returned to the podium Dec. 3.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra announced March 22 he would miss three weeks, his final programs at Symphony Hall this season, because of back problems. The Met said Sunday he will have corrective surgery on his lower back and had withdrawn from four performances of Puccini's "Tosca" and a three-performance revival of Berg's "Lulu." He will be replaced by Fabio Luisi.

Levine, known for decades for leading much of the Met season, conducted just 11 performances at the opera house in Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts this season plus four concerts with the Met orchestra and its chamber ensemble at Carnegie Hall.

## Plane with Heat players makes emergency landing

**CHICAGO (AP)**—The charter jet carrying the Miami Heat home from a road trip made an emergency landing early Sunday in Chicago after a mechanic on board became ill.

Team spokesman Tim Donovan said the man, who was not identified, was OK and that team trainers tended to him in the air for what was believed to

be a diabetic coma. When the plane landed in Chicago, he was taken to a hospital.

The flight eventually resumed, and the Heat landed in Miami at 5:04 a.m. Sunday.

"Just landed back in the MIA feels good to be back home safe and sound," Heat guard Daequan Cook wrote on his Twitter feed.

Heat guard Dwyane Wade

wrote on Twitter about the surprise landing. "Hey everyone pray for our pilot," Wade wrote. "... He went into a Coma. God bless this man and his family."

Donovan said the man was in the cockpit when he became ill.

The team was returning to Miami after beating the Minnesota Timberwolves 97-84 Saturday night.

## Rock band Devo gives red cone hat to Ohio museum



**COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)**—The oddball rock group Devo has donated one of the red conical hats from its hit video "Whip It" to an Ohio museum.

The Ohio Historical Society says it has received a small collection of artifacts from the band and its official archivist. The items include stickers, T-shirts, costumes and a flower pot-style hat worn in the band's memorable 1980 video.

Three of the band's founding members grew up in Akron and met at Kent State University in the 1970s.

The group's name came from a theory the human race is in a process of devolution, which members read about in an anti-Darwinism pamphlet.

The band most recently performed in Ohio in 2008 for Barack Obama's presidential campaign. An annual DEVotional convention is held in Cleveland.

This undated photo provided by the Ohio Historical Society shows Elizabeth Higgins holding a flower pot-style hat like the rock group Devo wore in their video for their 1980 hit song "Whip It" in Columbus, Ohio.

## Husband's many conquests leave wife feeling defeat

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a 58-year-old woman who has been married 40 years. I married at 18, put my husband through school and raised three children.

We have now been separated five years, after I found out that my husband had had numerous affairs. The last one lasted three years and I had no idea. During his last affair, he had the woman in our home and told her personal things about me. He lied and told her we were getting a divorce.

We have not divorced. Financially it would be hard. I can't seem to get over the pain and hurt. He still calls to see if I am OK. I continually visualize him with the other women. Thirty-five years is a long time, and he's the only man I have ever known.

I want to get over him, but it's hard. I now work full-time. My husband constantly sought women who admired his power and status in the community. I don't think I can ever get over his hurting me so. I tried counseling. It didn't work. He continues to call, which keeps me hanging. Should I break all ties? Is that what's holding me back?

SAD IN OHIO

**DEAR SAD:** Let me talk to you like a friend and offer a suggestion: Talk to an attorney. After 40 years of marriage to a man with "power and status," one wealthy enough to afford serial "cookies" on the side, he must have accumulated enough assets that you shouldn't have to hold down a full-time job.

If you availed yourself of some of the assets to which you may be entitled, you might have enough to get more counseling and do some traveling, which might help to lessen your unhappiness. THEN you can decide whether or not to break all ties.

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** With graduation announcements pouring in every day from everyone whom I have ever known who has a child graduating, I think I have seen a new low.

I actually received a photocopy of a high school graduation announcement. There was no picture, no personal note, just a photocopy folded into a cheap envelope. The "real" ones had been sent to more "important" people.

My question is, should I send the kid a photocopy of a congratulations card and a photocopy of some money? What's the best way to handle this?

FLABBERGASTED IN THE SOUTH

**DEAR FLABBERGASTED:** If you have not seen the graduate since grammar school and aren't particularly close to the family, just toss it!

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I saw the letter you printed recently about "pennies from heaven" and thought I would share my story about a coin of a different kind.

My son died at the age of 16 following an auto accident. Among the feelings I was having was guilt that he didn't get to go to Italy with his Latin class the spring before his death because I couldn't afford it. Now, he would never get to go.

One day after returning to work, I was getting into my car and noticed a coin on the seat. I picked it up and was shocked to see it was an Italian lira! I took that as a sign that he DID get to see Italy, and I keep it in the frame with his picture.

CHRISTOPHER'S MOM IN EVANSVILLE, IND.

**DEAR MOM:** Please accept my sympathy for the tragic loss of your son. The coin was sent to comfort you, and I'm glad it served its purpose of tempering your feelings of guilt and loss.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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## ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

### Caresse Henry, former Madonna manager, dies

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Caresse Henry, an entertainment manager who once guided the careers of Madonna, Paula Abdul and others, has died in California. A statement from publicist and longtime friend Liz Rosenberg says Henry was 44. The Orange County coroner's office says she died of a self-inflicted gunshot at her home in Irvine, California. The Los Angeles native managed Madonna for 10 years until the early 1990s. Rosenberg says

Henry also managed Ricky Martin, Abdul, Andrew Dice Clay and others. Survivors include her two children, a sister, a brother and her parents.

### Harryette Mullen wins \$50,000 Jackson Poetry Prize

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Harryette Mullen has won a \$50,000 Jackson Poetry Prize for being a poet of "exceptional talent who deserves wider recognition." The nonprofit literary organization Poets & Writers Inc. announced Mullen as the winner of the

fourth annual Jackson Poetry Prize on Friday. The 56-year-old Mullen has written such books as "Recyclopedia," "Muse & Drudge" and "Sleeping With the Dictionary." Her socially and politically conscious verse is influenced by the feminist and civil rights movements.

### Best of the South Gala' attracts Hollywood actors

**LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (AP)**—Oscar winner Morgan Freeman and other Hollywood heavyweights will be in Little

Rock this weekend for a celebration of Southern culture and art. The Southern literary magazine The Oxford American is hosting Saturday's "Best of the South Gala." Freeman is set to receive the magazine's inaugural award for Outstanding Contributions to Southern Culture. "True Grit" author Charles Portis will receive the magazine's Lifetime Achievement in Southern Literature award, and reigning American Idol and Arkansas native Kris Allen will perform. Money raised at the event will go to support The Oxford American, a nonprofit.



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

A BOLT OF FIERY CRIMSON STREAKS ACROSS THE SKY! IT'S **STUPENDOUS MAN!**

THE FIENDISH **BABY SITTER GIRL** HAS A LOCAL HOUSEHOLD IN HER IRON GRIP OF TERROR! THE MAN OF MEGA-MIGHT ZOOMS TO THE RESCUE!

I'M IN LUCK! **BABY SITTER GIRL** IS MOMENTARILY DISTRACTED!

HI CHARLIE, IT'S ROSALYN. YEAH, I'M OVER AT THE LITTLE MONSTER'S HOUSE AGAIN. HMM? NO, ACTUALLY HE'S BEEN PRETTY GOOD TONIGHT. YEAH, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

WHY DO I SMELL PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES?

I'LL CHECK IT OUT

YES?

LUCKY FOR US, SHE BAKED A DOUBLE BATCH

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

LOOK, HONEY! THEY'RE STARTING A DANCE CLASS AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER.

THAT'S PRETTY CHEAP... NO AGE LIMIT... I MIGHT SIGN UP!

I'LL FINALLY BE ABLE TO SPREAD WORLD PEACE THROUGH DANCE.

HOW SO?

WELL, DANCE IS AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE. NO BOUNDARIES. NO TRANSLATORS.

I'LL BE ABLE TO SPEAK TO ALL THE WORLD THROUGH MY MOVEMENTS.

WELL, AT THE VERY LEAST, YOU'LL IMPRESS THE PRETZEL PEOPLE.

CHOMP MUNCH SLURP GULP

I LOVE JUNK FOOD!

GULP MUNCH SLURP

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 One of the deadly sins

5 — Khan

8 Item on stage

12 Chills and fever

13 Roadside weapon (Abbr.)

14 "— but known, ..."

15 Entreaty

16 Chaotic place

18 Attack dog, often

20 Beginning

21 Exist

22 Comedian

23 Margaret

26 Pitcher's warm-up area

30 Possess

31 Opposite of 29-Down

32 Historic time

33 Mark Twain, famously

36 Dazzlingly bright

**DOWN**

1 Reindeer

19 Vase's cousin

22 Poolroom stick

23 Dandy

24 Ram's mate

25 Hostel

26 "See ya"

27 Shell game

28 Mess up

29 Opposite of 31-Across

31 Actress Adams

34 Caught in the act

35 Oppositionist

36 Wrigley product

37 Elbow room

39 Waste maker

40 Teensy bit

41 Carry on

42 Taj Mahal city

43 Approach

44 Mexican entree

45 State with conviction

46 "Did — and gimble ..."

48 Ultra-modernist (Pref.)

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

F	A	C	T	P	D	A	P	A	L	L
I	S	L	E	O	A	F	O	L	I	O
Z	E	E	S	P	H	A	N	T	O	M
Z	A	F	T	I	G	R	I	P	E	N
E	R	R	S	X	I	V				
P	H	A	R	A	O	H	S	E	E	L
A	B	S	Q	U	A	N	T	R	A	P
M	O	S	S	P	H	A	R	M	A	C
S	O	N	O	R	A	P	Y	R	I	T
P	H	A	R	I	S	E	E	T	R	O
A	I	N	T	O	R	L	I	N	G	
T	O	T	S	A	S	S	E	S	S	E

Yesterday's answer 4-6

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Candace Cameron Bure, 34; Zach Braff, 35; Paul Rudd, 41; John Ratzenberger, 63

**Happy Birthday:** Letting the little things get to you will hold you back. Keep your long-term plans a secret until you have secured your position and have a good chance of turning your ideas into something concrete. Getting grants or other means of help from an institution, agency or government is attainable. Your numbers are 5, 8, 18, 24, 31, 36, 42

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't let personal troubles stand in the way of what you need to accomplish. Any angst you are feeling must be channeled into motivating yourself to accomplish the most. You can make major gains if you concentrate on what's important. ★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Don't slow down, take a pass or walk away from any opportunity big or small. You have what it takes to deliver. You will reach your goals and impress the people you are dealing with. ★★★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Favors will not be granted. Anyone promising too much should be avoided. You have to make your plans based on what you know and what you can offer. A learning experience is apparent. Reach out to an old friend. ★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Look for someone you relate to and consider how you can work together to reach a common goal. The discussions will have the potential to lead into a solid partnership. Love will be enhanced if you offer help. ★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Put your heart into whatever you do. There is no room for error if you want to avoid complaints. Your efforts could very well lead to an interesting offer if you are diligent and detailed with your actions and your communications. ★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Don't forget to put time aside for someone who interests you personally. A trip will help you put your life in perspective and visualize changes you can implement to make it better. Sharing your emotional and personal thoughts will change your life. ★★★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Proceed with caution. You will be inclined to overdo and overspend if you aren't careful. If you go overboard, you will end up worrying about how you are going to pay for your indulgences. ★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** It's time to make a commitment that will make up for some of the areas you may have been lacking in an important relationship. Setting the record straight and being open about your intentions will help you form a closer relationship. ★★★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You may have to do some quick mathematics if you are going to resolve a financial issue you face. Pay off debts and ease your stress. You may have to make some big changes at home and with family. ★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Love is on the rise and a couple of nice offerings on your part will bring you closer together and help you make solid plans

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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for the future. An old friend will help you see what you've been missing, allowing you to enjoy life more. ★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don't share your thoughts if you think it might hurt someone. Problems with money will lead to a change in the way you do things. A problem with someone you want to get closer to can lead to a mistake you will end up regretting. ★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Contracts will be offered if you are dedicated and determined and have done the necessary legwork. Don't be afraid to share your ideas, intentions and goals. An old lover is thinking about you. ★★★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are intense, stubborn and ambitious. You are diplomatic, determined and a strong leader. You are bound by tradition and strong values.

Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [myspace.com/eugenialast](http://myspace.com/eugenialast) for Eugenia's blog, [astroadvice.com](http://astroadvice.com) for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

5		4		2		3		7		
				6		5				
2										4
	1			7				9		
4			9	2					5	
	6			3				4		
7										9
			3	4						
1		9		5		8			6	

Difficulty Level ★★

4/06

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

4	1	7	2	3	6	8	5	9
8	9	3	4	7	5	2	1	6
6	2	5	8	1	9	7	3	4
9	7	4	6	5	2	3	8	1
5	3	8	9	4	1	6	7	2
2	6	1	3	8	7	9	4	5
1	4	6	7	2	8	5	9	3
7	5	9	1	6	3	4	2	8
3	8	2	5	9	4	1	6	7

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

NEIGHBORS WITH POOLS KEEP US COOL Solution: 4 letters

S	E	M	A	G	A	T	H	E	R	I	N	G	B	T
E	E	T	A	V	I	R	P	I	K	O	E	F	A	N
A	V	E	P	I	B	A	M	I	C	A	N	R	E	
S	E	P	D	A	T	P	T	N	M	O	E	B	M	
O	N	A	T	I	R	E	A	E	I	I	L	E	E	
N	T	H	O	E	T	I	L	S	A	V	X	C	S	
A	E	S	S	E	I	N	Y	S	X	E	C	P	U	
L	E	S	E	V	E	N	I	R	I	U	E	E	M	
H	V	P	N	V	N	M	N	A	S	S	R	N	S	A
S	I	I	N	U	R	G	G	U	A	W	E	S	E	C
A	T	O	S	E	S	E	M	G	O	I	T	I	D	C
L	C	S	P	I	S	A	E	L	S	M	A	V	I	E
P	A	L	E	S	T	Y	L	E	T	O	W	E	L	S
S	A	L	A	U	S	A	C	T	S	P	E	T	S	S
Y	P	U	O	R	G	N	I	H	S	E	R	F	E	R

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Access, Active, Allow, Amusement, Barbecue, Bathe, Beverages, Casual, Convenience, Deck, Deep, Event, Expensive, Family, Games, Gathering, Group, Guests, Impress, Invitation, Music, Party, Patio, Permission, Play, Private, Refreshing, Relaxing, Salt, Seasonal, Shape, Slides, Splash, Steps, Style, Sunny, Swim, Towels, Usage, Visit, Water

**Yesterday's Answer: Four Star**  
Treasury 7 Send check or money order for \$10.95 each plus \$3.25 postage and handling each \$14.20 total each, U.S. funds only for the first volume, \$1.50 add for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480 Order online at [upuzzles.com](http://upuzzles.com).

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



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CNMI, USA  
Tel. 671 898-0365

Pro Se,

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ELEONORA MARISA M. BALMORI	)	FCD – DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0651R
vs.	)	VERIFIED EX-PARTE
RENATO S. ARDAMOY	)	MOTION FOR AN ORDER TO SERVE BY PUBLICATION
Respondent,	)	

### MOTION

COMES NOW, the petitioner Eleonora Marisa M. Balmori respectfully moves this court to permit service to be made by publication under 7 CMC Section 1301, because Respondent cannot be served within the Philippines. I have numerous attempts notify the Respondent through service by mail, first was claimed but no respond and secondly I received 1 (one) notice to returned mail due to being unclaimed. I am seeking this court's understanding to allow me to serve by publication so I can move this case forward to a final conclusion.

Dated this 12th day of March, 2010.

/s/ ELEONORA MARISA M. BALMORI  
PETITIONER

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Adoption of Harry Richard Malakai Moni, Jr.	)	FCD-AD Civil Action No. 10-0030
by	)	NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED ADOPTION OF Harry Richard Malakai Moni, Jr. (Born August 30, 1998)
Hermes Moni and Salome Malakai Moni	)	

Please take notice that the hearing regarding the proposed adoption of **Harry Richard Malakai Moni, Jr.** by Hermes Moni and Salome Malakai Moni will be held at the Commonwealth Superior Court, on April 8, 2010, at 1:30 p.m.

**Harry Richard Malakai Moni, Jr.** was born on August 30, 1998 in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The petition for the adoption of **Harry Richard Malakai Moni, Jr.** is sealed. However, a copy of the petition will be provided to any person that requests a copy before the date of the hearing and is able to demonstrate that they are or may be an interested person to **Harry Richard Malakai Moni, Jr.**'s adoption, as determined by CNMI Law. If you believe that you are an interested person, a copy of the petition may be obtained by contacting Sean E. Frink at the Carlsmith Ball LLP, P.O. Box 5241, Saipan MP 96950; Telephone (670) 322-3455; Fax (670) 322-3368; E-mail: sfrink@carlsmith.com.

Failure of interested persons to appear at the hearing and provide their objections will result in them forever waiving any rights that they may have to contest this adoption.

DATED: April 5, 2010.

/s/ Sean E. Frink  
Attorney at Law

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

*Saipan Tribune's* Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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*Saipan Tribune* also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

#### Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

#### Saturday Issue:

- *Saipan Tribune*: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

#### Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

# COVER GENT

Find today's solution in this section

\$3300 REWARD

Reward for return of items stolen from house on Navy Hill on Sunday morning April 5

■ Laptop Computer: Apple Macbook. Silver. \$1000 Reward

■ Laptop Computer: Toshiba Tecra. Silver. \$1000 Reward

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■ Purse: Black, containing wallet, id, keys. \$100 Reward

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**PHILADELPHIA** (AP)—Donovan McNabb is changing uniforms and staying in the NFC East.

The Philadelphia Eagles traded McNabb to the Washington Redskins for a pair of draft picks Sunday night. The Eagles will receive a second-round pick (37th overall) in this month in the NFL draft and either a third- or fourth-round pick next year.

"Donovan McNabb was more than a franchise quarterback for this team," Eagles chairman Jeffrey Lurie said. "He truly embodied all of the attributes of a great quarterback and of a great person. He has been an excellent representative of this organization and the entire National Football League both on and off the field. I look forward to honoring him as one of the greatest Eagles of all-time and hopefully see him enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton one day."

The trade is the boldest move to date for new Redskins coach Mike Shanahan and could spell the end in Washington for Jason Campbell, the starter for 3 1/2 seasons. Shanahan already has signed free-agent Rex Grossman as a backup and has been actively scouting the top quarterbacks available in the draft, when the Redskins will have the No. 4 overall pick.

"I'm really excited about my future with the Washington Redskins," McNabb said in a statement. "I'm eager to work with Coach Shanahan. He's been a very successful coach with a couple of Super Bowl victories on his resume. While it's been my goal to win a Super Bowl in Philadelphia, we came up short. I enjoyed my 11 years here and we shared a lot more good times than bad."

Shanahan can only hope the 33-year-old McNabb works out as well as the last big-time Washington-Philadelphia quarterback deal. The Eagles in 1964 sent Sonny Jurgensen to the Redskins, where he played 11 seasons until he was 40 and



In this Nov. 1, 2009, file photo, Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb (5) runs with the ball as New York Giants defensive end Osi Umenyiora (72) dives during the first quarter of an NFL football game in Philadelphia. AP

# Eagles send McNabb to Redskins

became a Hall of Famer.

"These people never learn," Jurgensen told the Redskins' Web site when informed of the trade Sunday night.

Trading McNabb to a division opponent could haunt Philadelphia for years, and fans already

are questioning the decision.

"We thought this was the best for Donovan and the compensation was right," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. "We surely took into consideration Donovan's feelings."

McNabb is entering the final

year of a contract and it's unknown whether he is negotiating an extension with the Redskins. Reid said the possibility McNabb could refuse to go to another team or decline to extend his contract was not a factor.

"Donovan would've played

anywhere because that's the kind of person he is," Reid said. "He's happy to be there."

McNabb, a six-time Pro Bowl quarterback, led the Eagles to five NFC championship games and one Super Bowl in 11 seasons in Philadelphia. His failure to lead the team to its first NFL championship since 1960 plus the emergence of Kevin Kolb made him expendable.

McNabb, the No. 2 overall pick in the 1999 draft, leaves as the franchise leader in yards passing (32,873), completions (2,801), attempts (4,746), completion percentage (59.0) and touchdown passes (216). He also rushed for 3,249 yards and 28 TDs.

Kolb, who has started two games in three seasons, becomes the starter. Michael Vick is the backup. Both have one year remaining on their contracts.

"This was a very tough decision," Reid said. "Donovan McNabb represented everything a football player could be during his 11 seasons in Philadelphia. He carried this organization to new heights and set a high standard of excellence both on and off the field. We thank him for everything he did for this football team and for this city."

McNabb threw for 3,553 yards and 22 touchdowns with 10 interceptions in 14 games last season, leading the Eagles to the playoffs. His passer rating of 92.9 was the third-highest in his career.

But McNabb played poorly in a loss to Dallas in Week 17 that cost Philadelphia a division title and a first-round bye. He also struggled in a loss to the Cowboys the following week in the wild-card game.

Reid said immediately after the season that McNabb would return in 2010. Reid repeated that several times throughout the offseason until acknowledging last month the team was listening to offers for all three of its QBs.

McNabb then issued a statement saying he wished to remain with the Eagles, but understood the situation and hoped

for a quick resolution.

"Donovan is the ultimate professional," Eagles president Joe Banner said. "He has an incredible work ethic and has been an integral part of our success. Over the years, Donovan has always carried himself with a great deal of dignity. He's an excellent role model for young men and women from across the region. In my mind, he'll always be remembered as one of the greatest Eagles of all time."

The Redskins waited until late in the evening to announce the trade and did not make Shanahan available for comment.

"Donovan is an accomplished quarterback who has been a proven winner in the National Football League," the coach said in a statement released by the team. "I have long admired his competitiveness and feel he will be an outstanding addition to the Redskins and our community. He knows our division and the roadmap to success in the NFC East."

ESPN.com was the first to report that McNabb had been dealt to Washington.

The Eagles were 92-49-1 in regular-season games that McNabb started and 9-7 in the playoffs.

McNabb overcame numerous injuries and controversies throughout his career, including criticism from Rush Limbaugh and a feud with former teammate Terrell Owens.

The former Syracuse star sustained injuries that ended his regular season in November in 2002, 2005 and 2006. McNabb missed a total of 24 games because of injuries. The Eagles were 14-10 in those games.

McNabb is the latest veteran to depart Philadelphia this off-season. Longtime starting cornerback Sheldon Brown was traded to Cleveland on Friday. Former All-Pro running back Brian Westbrook, former All-Pro guard Shawn Andrews, linebacker Will Witherspoon, defensive end Darren Howard and wide receiver Kevin Curtis were released.

**HUMBLE, Texas** (AP)—Meet the new Anthony Kim.

Shrugging off a bad putt on the 72nd hole, Kim parred the first hole of a playoff with Vaughn Taylor to win the Houston Open on Sunday for his third PGA Tour title.

Kim and Taylor were tied at 12-under 276 after Kim missed a 6-foot par putt in regulation on the water-lined 18th hole to settle for a 2-under 70.

Not long ago, Kim said he would've mentally unraveled.

"Two years ago, that bag may have been in the water," Kim said. "I might not have had clubs to go to the playoff. But I just feel calm out there, I feel no sense of urgency. It's something that's happened naturally and not something that's been forced."

"I'm comfortable with who I am out there. I found my identity."

Taylor finished with a 68. He needed a victory to qualify for the Masters next week in his hometown of Augusta, Ga.

"Hugely disappointed," Taylor said. "It's a tough pill to swallow."

Charl Schwartzel (67) and Graham

## Kim beats Taylor in Houston Open playoff

DeLaet (68) finished a stroke back at 11 under. Shaun Micheel (65) was two shots behind and Kevin Stadler (68) and Houston resident Jeff Maggert (70) finished four behind.

The 24-year-old Kim won for the first time since the 2008 AT&T National. He also won the Wachovia Championship in 2008. But after a 2009 highlighted more by injuries than victories, Kim caught himself in a negative spiral that was making things worse.

He finished 39th on the money list after reaching No. 6 in 2008, then re-dedicated himself to his practice routine and worked on his mental approach. And now he heads to the Masters riding four straight top-25 finishes.

"I just look back at last year, after the season was over, I was just complaining about everything," Kim said. "I felt like I deserved to win a golf tournament without trying. That's not how it is."

"I've put in a lot of hard work, so I feel like when I'm out there, I know I'm going to do well. Having that confidence really has propelled my game, I feel like, to a different level."

Kim and Taylor played No. 18 again in the playoff and Kim made a routine 4, two-putting from 30 feet. Taylor hit a bad drive, played out of the greenside bunker and came up short on his 18-foot par putt.

"I was reading it to go just a little left, and I got consumed with the line," Taylor said. "It's a must make. Kind of embarrassing to leave it short."

The event went to a playoff for the second straight year. Paul Casey beat J.B. Holmes last year with a bogey on the first extra hole after Holmes drove into the water.

Taylor played in the group ahead of Kim and forced a playoff with an 18-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole. He

backpedaled as the ball curved toward the hole and flipped his putter in the air when it dropped.

Kim, who shared the third-round lead with Bryce Molder, birdied the first hole on Sunday and maintained the outright lead until the 18th. He hit his approach into the greenside bunker, blasted out to 6 feet and missed to the right.

He struggled with his tee shots all weekend, but found the fairway on the playoff hole. Taylor hit the bunker on the right off the tee and couldn't recover.

Kim hit only 23 of 56 fairways in four rounds, the fourth-lowest total for a winner since 1983.

"I was in some spots on the golf course I never thought I could possibly see," Kim said. "But I got out of those with pars and birdies and feel very confident going into next week."

Earlier in the day, Phil Mickelson finished 2 under after an eventful 71.

He double-bogeyed three of his first 10 holes, then reeled off six straight birdies to match the best streak on tour this year. Matt Every birdied six consecutive holes in Phoenix.

During his hot stretch on the back nine, Mickelson pulled a special guest out of the gallery to carry his bag. Dr. Tom Buchholz, a radiation oncologist at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, is treating Mickelson's wife and mother, Amy and Mary, who were both diagnosed with breast cancer last summer.

Buchholz wasn't totally inexperienced. He was working in the pro shop at the Westchester Country Club after college in 1984 when he caddied for Allen Miller in the PGA Tour's Westchester Classic. Miller tied for 10th.

"It was a story we talked about over the many hours and weeks and months we've been together in the hospital," Mickelson said. "We went 3-for-3, three birdies."

Light rain fell in the morning, but the tournament avoided a weather delay for the first time since 2005.





# Spurs earn playoff berth in win over Lakers



**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Manu Ginobili scored 32 points and Tim Duncan added 24 as the San Antonio Spurs beat the Los Angeles Lakers 100-81 Sunday to clinch their 13th consecutive playoff berth.

The Spurs had extra incentive since a loss would have increased their chances of facing the defending NBA champions in the first round of the playoffs. Instead, they moved into the No. 7 spot, a half-game ahead of idle Portland.

The Lakers got a season-high 32 points from Pau Gasol and 22 from Kobe Bryant, but failed to clinch the No. 1 seed in the West and heard boos from their fans.

Richard Jefferson added 14 points and Duncan had 11 rebounds for the Spurs, who won their third straight and 15th of 20. They've notched recent wins over four of the NBA's top teams: Cleveland, Boston, Orlando and now the Lakers.

## Celtics 117, Cavaliers 113

At Boston, Ray Allen scored a season-high 33 points, hitting his sixth 3-pointer to give the Celtics a four-point lead with 48 seconds left, and Boston held on despite 42 points from LeBron James.

The win snapped a three-game home losing streak for Boston, and it kept the Cavaliers from clinching home-court advantage for the entire postseason.

James scored 20 in the fourth quarter, when the Cavs erased a 17-point deficit and took their first lead at 104-103 with 2:58 left. But he missed two free throws in the last 16 seconds and a 3-point attempt on a fast break with 3.2 seconds left when a 2-pointer would have leveled it.

## Warriors 113, Raptors 112

At Toronto, Don Nelson tied Lenny Wilkens for the most wins by an NBA coach when Golden State held off Toronto for its second straight victory.

The victory was the 1,332nd for Nelson, who can pass Wilkens when Golden State plays at Washington on Tuesday. Golden State's players danced in a circle around Nelson after the wild finish, which saw Chris Bosh steal the inbounds pass only to have his game-winning layup attempt roll off the rim as time expired.

Stephen Curry had 29 points and 12 assists, and Corey Maggette scored 31 points for the Warriors.

Bosh had 42 points and 12 rebounds for the Raptors, who lost for the first time in four games.

## Magic 107, Grizzlies 92

At Orlando, Vince Carter had 26 points and seven rebounds as Orlando beat Memphis after an on-court scuffle.

The scrum between Matt Barnes and Hasheem Thabeet escalated into a near 10-player shoving match. There were six technical fouls by game's end, plenty of pop for an Easter matchup that had little meaning in the standings.

Rashard Lewis and Jameer Nelson scored 18 points apiece for the Magic, who are all but sure to win their third straight Southeast Division title and the Eastern Conference's No. 2 seed. One Orlando win or Atlanta loss will seal the division.

Zach Randolph had 24 points and 18 rebounds, and Rudy Gay added 18 points to help Memphis rally from a 14-point deficit. The Grizzlies have lost four of their last five.

## Thunder 116, Timberwolves 108

At Oklahoma City, Kevin Durant scored 40 points to break the club record for scoring in a season.

Durant hit a jumper and then threw down a two-handed alley-oop jam with 5 minutes left to restore Oklahoma City's lead to double digits and break the scoring record in the process.

Ryan Gomes scored 20 of his 22 points in the second half to lead Minnesota's comeback bid. Jonny Flynn also finished with 22 as the Timber-



San Antonio Spurs guard Manu Ginobili, right, of Argentina, drives to the basket against Los Angeles Lakers center D.J. Mbenga during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Los Angeles, Sunday, April 4, 2010.

wolves lost for the 24th time in their last 26 games.

## Wizards 109, Nets 99

At Washington, Andray Blatche had 20

points, a career-high 13 assists and nine rebounds as Washington beat New Jersey in a matchup of two of the NBA's worst teams.

Blatche's performance overshadowed a game between two clubs with a combined record of 34-119. He missed 13-of-18 shots from the field, but hit all 10 of his free throw attempts.

Washington had six players in double figures. Mike Miller had 17 points and a season-high 13 rebounds. Nick Young, Shaun Livingston and Cartier Martin had 16 points and JaVale McGee scored 14.

Brook Lopez and Devin Harris led New Jersey with 22.

## Pacers 133, Rockets 102

At Indianapolis, Roy Hibbert had 20 points and 11 rebounds, leading Indiana over Houston for its ninth home win in 10 games.

Josh McRoberts had a career-high 18 points and equaled a career high with 12 rebounds, and Danny Granger scored 18 for the Pacers, who have won seven of their last nine matches.

Chase Budinger had 17 points and Kyle Lowry scored 16 for Houston (38-38), which has dropped four straight to Indiana.

## Knicks 113, Clippers 107

At Los Angeles, David Lee had 29 points and 10 rebounds as New York beat the Clippers at Staples Center for the first time in 11 attempts.

The Knicks ended a four-game losing streak, while the Clippers lost their fifth straight and 16th in 19 games. The victory was New York's first on the road against the Clippers since March 25, 1998, when they won their fifth straight at the L.A. Sports Arena.

Baron Davis had 23 points and 11 assists for the Clippers, who reached the 50-loss mark for the 18th time since the club moved from San Diego to Los Angeles for the 1984-85 season. Chris Kaman had 22 points and 16 rebounds.

# Youkilis, Red Sox top Yankees 9-7 in season opener



**BOSTON (AP)**—The Red Sox stressed run prevention as they built their team for this season. Then it began and they won with run production.

Kevin Youkilis had three extra-base hits, Dustin Pedroia hit a two-run homer and three new starters had big nights with the bat as Boston rallied to beat the defending champion New York Yankees 9-7 in the major league opener Sunday night.

"We all have faith in ourselves," said Youkilis, who scored the go-ahead run on a passed ball in the seventh inning. "It's good to get a win opening night. It's good for the city. It's good for the fans. It's good for the players. It's good for everyone. ... But it's still just one game."

Yankees manager Joe Girardi had little doubt the Red Sox could hit.

"We expected them to score runs," he said. "We know they have a very good offensive team. You look at the guys they brought in."

The signings of outfielder Mike Cameron, third baseman Adrian Beltré

and shortstop Marco Scutaro were part of what general manager Theo Epstein called the "run prevention" approach after a poor defensive season by the club. But that trio went a combined 5 for 9 with three RBIs.

"I think it's great for them because there's a lot of pressure here and it's good to see them get the hits out of the way," Youkilis said. "There's no doubt they're not just defensive (players) like everyone's saying. These guys can play."

Boston erased a 5-1 deficit against CC Sabathia in the first night opener in the history of 98-year-old Fenway Park.

"It fell definitely on my shoulders. I'm very disappointed," Sabathia said. "I had a pretty good lead and I was trying to throw the ball over the plate a little too much."

Jorge Posada and Curtis Granderson hit back-to-back homers off Josh Beckett to give the Yankees a 2-0 lead in the second. It was 7-5 in the bottom of the seventh when Scutaro singled and Pedroia tied it with an opening-day homer for the second straight season.

Youkilis then doubled with two outs,

went to third on Damaso Marte's wild pitch and scored when the left-hander's high pitch bounced off Posada's glove.

"You don't really want to give them runs," Girardi said. "That's the last thing you want to do to a club like this."

Pedroia added an RBI single in the eighth.

Hideki Okajima pitched a scoreless inning to get the win and Jonathan Papelbon worked the ninth for the save.

Chan Ho Park recorded just two outs while taking the loss in his Yankees debut. The right-hander was charged with three runs and three hits.

Former Red Sox ace Pedro Martinez got a warm greeting when he threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

The real starters didn't do as well.

Sabathia gave up five runs and six hits over 5 1-3 innings in his second poor opening-day start since he joined New York for a \$161 million, seven-year contract. Beckett allowed five runs and eight hits in 4 2-3 innings. It was the worst of five opening-day starts for the right-hander, who had allowed just four runs in 22 2-3 innings in his previous four.

The long-term contract extension he's expected to sign soon "never crossed my mind," Beckett said. "I never established my curveball, at least not for strikes."

Even two aging singers beloved by Red Sox fans had better nights.

Steven Tyler, lead singer of Aerosmith and a Boston-area resident, sang "God Bless America" during the seventh-inning stretch.

Neil Diamond, whose "Sweet Caroline" is played at Fenway after the top of the eighth, then stepped onto the field along the right-field line to sing it in person. The Brooklyn native wore a blue Red Sox hat with a red "B" and a dark jacket with the words "KEEP THE DODGERS IN BROOKLYN" on the back.

The Red Sox were more concerned with the team from the Bronx.

The Yankees began the season as champions for the first time since they beat Kansas City 7-3 behind Roger Clemens in the 2001 opener. They finished that year in the World Series, but lost to the Arizona Diamondbacks in seven games.

The last time the Red Sox and Yankees met in an opener was in 2005 following Boston's first championship since 1918. New York won 9-2 with Randy Johnson beating David Wells—like Sabathia, a burly lefty.

Youkilis got the first hit off Sabathia, a leadoff double in the second, and scored on Beltré's sacrifice fly. Youkilis then tripled in two runs in the sixth before Beltré's RBI single tied it at 5.

The Yankees went ahead again before the Red Sox grabbed the lead, typical of past back-and-forth games between the two rivals.

"That was one of those games I guess I've got to learn that it's going to be that way pretty much all year long," said Cameron, who came over from Milwaukee.

The first eight batters of the game were retired before the Yankees, who led the AL last season with 244 homers, got two longballs in a row. Posada hit a liner off the right-field foul pole. Then Granderson sent a long drive into the center-field seats in his first at-bat as a Yankee.

New York went ahead 7-5 in the seventh on Robinson Cano's RBI groundout and Posada's run-scoring single.



## MACARANAS

From Page 28

“He is strengthening his game to play both the Country Club of Rancho Bernardo, a par-73, 6,027-yard course in San Diego, California, and Legacy Golf Links, a par-72, 5,600-yard course in Pinehurst, North Carolina,” the elder Macaranas said.

With two big events up on R.J.’s calendar, his family is hoping that people back home will be able to send help to the junior golfer.

“The pressure to win in World Championships and in a high profile champion-

ship is so great, that it’s almost impossible to resist rationalizing on saving money when his competition seem to have endless monetary support,” Richard said.

“The economic climate has affected many junior golfers, and for this reason, R.J. drastically needs a sign of support, because he will not compete for the first time in the spring tournaments. Since he clinched a spot in the Spring Bridge-stone Tournament of Champions, he has chosen to suspend all spring tournaments so he can just play the TOC and save money for the World Championship,” the elder Macaranas added.

The Macaranas family is hoping that some golf associations in the CNMI

will help R.J.’s bid in the two world championships.

“This month he will need to raise funds again for these world championships. It’s time for the community to show their support for R.J.’s work in promoting the CNMI world championship brand,” Richard said.

“R.J. is praying that more people will donate even a small amount to help him with his world championship bids. He hopes a nonprofit organization like the CWGA and other associations, like the Refaluwasch Golf Association, will provide a way for individuals to contribute to the CNMI world championship representative,” Richard added.

## HEO

From Page 28

Both are Grade 4 events, awarding as much as 40 Junior ITF ranking points to the winner and as low as 10 to losers in the Round of 16. The two Junior ITF events will be both played on the clay court at the George Alder Tennis Center in Queensland.

“I am not use to playing in clay court that much, but I had an experience in playing several games in this type of surface when I played in tournaments in New Caledonia and Korea. I believe I can do well in these two tournaments, as I’ve been playing against the guys that I’ve met before in Australia and New Zealand,” Heo said.

“I like my chances in these two tournaments and I can go to either the quarterfinals or semifinals,” the 18-

year-old CNMI netter added. “I just have to play smart and go with the flow in the clay court,”

Heo, who is currently ranked No. 645 in the world, is seeded seventh in the Australian International Tournament, which had 48 players making the main draw and 25 others fighting for the 14 remaining qualifying slots. The tournament will run from April 12 to 17 and drew players from host Australia, New Zealand, the CNMI, Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Germany, Thailand, Serbia, and Morocco.

The CNMI bet was only the second non-Australian netter who made it to the Top 10 seeding in the six-day tournament. The other was New Zealand’s Richard Hornby, who is seeded ninth with his No. 874 world ranking. Australia’s Nathan Lemke is seeded first and is the highest-ranked player

in the field at No. 346.

In the Gallipoli Junior ITF, which will be played from April 18 to 23, Heo is also seeded in the main draw at No. 10. Again, he was only the second non-Australian player who broke into the Top 10 seeding. The other was Hong Kong bet and world No. 376 Kwun Ho James Kong. World No. 1 Joey Swaysland of Australia gained the top seeding in the tournament that drew 46 players in the main draw and 26 others vying for the 18 remaining berths.

Heo is hoping to earn as many Junior ITF points as he can to improve his rankings, which reached the highest at No. 619 on Feb. 15, 2010. Heo, who would like to thank Tan Holdings for helping him in his off-island tournaments, holds a career win-loss record of 9-22 in singles and 10-22 in doubles. This year, he has a 4-3 slate in singles and an even 3-3 mark in doubles.

## WORLD

From Page 28

the game with only seven players and was down to five in the last two seconds of the match.

Bon Tamayo was the second and last AON player to foul out when he committed back-to-back fouls. Before his two quick fouls, Tamayo stepped up to the foul line for a pair of free throws with AON behind, 97-100, five ticks to go in the game. He made the first one and intentionally missed the second, hoping AON will get the possession back for a chance to tie the game.

After the miss, AON’s Marlon De Dios and World Resort’s Jam Navarro battled for the rebound with the latter touching the ball last before it went out of the baseline. AON retained the leather and Tamayo received the inbound pass to the left baseline. Tamayo then attacked the defense of World Resort’s Wowie Abuel with the former using his shoulder a bit to push off his defender. The contact coupled with a little acting job from Abuel forced referee Lito Salas to charge Tamayo with an offensive foul and gave possession back to World Resort.

## LIZAMA

From Page 28

his impressive .909 average, built on an 10-for-11 performance at bat. The Dragons’ Alden Ngeskebei is currently in second place with his 15-for-21 performance of .714 average, followed by JPO’s Cedric Camacho (.706), Red Sox’ Craig Aguon (.667), Twins’ Darion Jones (.632), Dragons’ Devyn Flores (.611), Braves’ Ian Norita (.600), Ol’Aces’ Jesse Brel (.583), Red Sox’ Franco Nakamura (.583), Braves’ Joseph Lifoifoi, Jr. (.579), Twins’ Philip Sablan (.571),

Ol’Aces Virolanson Secharmidal (.571) and Raymond Yamagata (.571), Survivors’ Caleb Takao (.550), and Falcons’ Logan Martin (.526).

Ol’Aces’ Michael Muna has scored three homers to lead the league, while Sablan has earned five triples against Takao’s four. In the doubles category, Ngeskebei has scored four, while Flores has the most RBIs so far with 15. Ol’Aces Jessie Brel is the current leader in runs scored with 16.

Sakisat is tied with two others in the pitching race. The Twins pitched 14.5 innings and recorded no errors for a 0.00 ERA. Ol’Aces’ Terson Eina and

the break, Aqua Resort went ahead by 17 points, 47-30. The lead ballooned in the last two quarters, as Pepsi had only Alex Lauron and Erlan Lansang scoring for the team.

Aqua Resort had four players scoring at least 16 points each and two combining for 18 points. Lauron led Pepsi with 36 points, while Lansang chipped in 20. Pepsi’s third best scorer—Ian Obnimaga—logged only five markers.

### First Game

**Aqua 100** – Lizama 18, Aquino 17, Mi. Achas 17, Mina 16, Torres 9, Johanes 9, Acosta 6, Mc. Achas 6, Gapor 2.

**Pepsi 69** – Lauron 36, Lansang 20, Obnimaga 5, Cepeda 4, Babauta 2, Maglaya 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 27-20, 47-30, 75-51, 100-69.

### Second Game

**World Resort 102**—Abuel 25, Vinas 24, Olaitiman 22, Ritual 17, Espiritu 5, Paras 2, Apasan 2, Navarro 2.

**AON 98** – De Dios 25, Tamayo 22, Abuan 15, De Guzman 16, Catalla 15, Manangan 4.

**Scoring by quarters:** 27-27, 48-49, 73-73, 102-98.

Michael Muna also posted similar 0.00 ERA with the former pitching in 12 innings and the latter in seven.

The Falcons’ Alfonso Evangelista is currently in third with 0.60 ERA after pitching 20 innings and making two errors. Flores had only one error in 9.2 innings pitched for his 0.60 ERA.

The Twins’ Darion Jones has logged 37 strikeouts, two more off Nathan Camacho’s total. Others who made it to the strikeouts leaders list were the Strikers’ Perry Celis (34), Evangelista (30), and Takao (30).

Statistics were based on results after the March 28 games.



## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Boston	48	28	.632	—
Toronto	38	38	.500	10
New York	27	49	.355	21
Philadelphia	26	50	.342	22
New Jersey	11	66	.143	37 1/2

##### Southeast Division

x-Orlando	54	23	.701	—
x-Atlanta	49	27	.645	4 1/2
Miami	43	34	.558	11
Charlotte	40	36	.526	13 1/2
Washington	23	53	.303	30 1/2

##### Central Division

z-Cleveland	60	17	.779	—
Milwaukee	42	34	.553	17 1/2
Chicago	37	39	.487	22 1/2
Indiana	29	48	.377	31
Detroit	23	53	.303	36 1/2

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Southwest Division

x-Dallas	50	27	.649	—
x-San Antonio	47	29	.618	2 1/2
Memphis	39	37	.513	10 1/2
Houston	38	38	.500	11 1/2
New Orleans	35	43	.449	15 1/2

##### Northwest Division

x-Denver	50	27	.649	—
x-Utah	50	27	.649	—
x-Oklahoma City	48	28	.632	1 1/2
x-Portland	47	30	.610	3
Minnesota	15	62	.195	35

##### Pacific Division

y-L.A. Lakers	55	22	.714	—
x-Phoenix	50	27	.649	5
L.A. Clippers	27	50	.351	28
Sacramento	24	53	.312	31
Golden State	23	53	.303	31 1/2

##### x-clinched playoff spot

##### y-clinched division

##### z-clinched conference

#### Yesterday’s Games

Boston 117, Cleveland 113  
San Antonio 100, L.A. Lakers 81  
Indiana 133, Houston 102  
Washington 109, New Jersey 99  
Golden State 113, Toronto 112  
Orlando 107, Memphis 92  
Oklahoma City 116, Minnesota 108  
New York 113, L.A. Clippers 107

### SHELL HOUSTON OPEN SCORES

**HUMBLE, Texas (AP)**—Scores Sunday from the Shell Houston Open, a \$5.8 million US PGA Tour event at the par-72, 7,457-yard Redstone Golf Club, Tournament Course:

#### FINAL ROUND

x-Anthony Kim	68-69-69-70—276
Vaughn Taylor	68-70-70-68—276
Charl Schwartzel	71-72-67-67—277
Graham DeLaet	71-67-71-68—277
Shaun Micheel	70-73-70-65—278
Kevin Stadler	67-70-74-68—279
Jeff Maggert	70-69-70-70—279
Matt Kuchar	69-72-69-70—280
Lee Westwood	69-68-72-71—280
Bryce Molder	69-66-71-74—280
D.J. Trahan	78-66-70-67—281
Jason Bohn	70-72-71-68—281
Joe Ogilvie	70-67-71-73—281
Ben Curtis	73-71-73-65—282
Blake Adams	73-72-68-69—282
Steve Marino	70-71-71-70—282
Justin Rose	70-72-70-70—282
James Riscoll	68-70-73-71—282
Adam Scott	69-70-72-71—282
Bubba Watson	73-67-71-71—282
Josh Teater	73-69-69-71—282
Alex Prugh	70-66-76-71—283
Fredrik Jacobson	73-70-69-71—283
Roland Thatcher	70-71-70-72—283
J.J. Henry	74-72-69-69—284
Ben Crane	75-68-72-69—284
John Rollins	73-72-68-71—284
Chad Campbell	70-72-70-72—284
Omar Uresti	69-69-72-74—284
Justin Leonard	69-74-67-74—284
Rich Barcelo	75-69-72-69—285
Soren Kjeldsen	71-72-73-69—285
Y.E. Yang	74-71-70-70—285
Kevin Sutherland	68-73-69-75—285
Phil Mickelson	69-76-70-71—286
Tag Ridings	73-70-72-71—286
Brendon de Jonge	72-74-68-72—286
Chris Tidland	72-72-70-72—286
Cameron Percy	67-69-74-76—286
David Lutterus	74-71-71-71—287
Martin Laird	70-70-76-71—287
Ricky Barnes	73-71-71-72—287
Padraig Harrington	69-69-72-77—287
Ernie Els	70-74-75-69—288
Webb Simpson	75-71-72-70—288
Stuart Appleby	70-72-74-72—288
Bob Estes	73-70-71-74—288
Michael Allen	71-72-71-74—288
Spencer Levin	71-72-70-75—288
Aaron Baddeley	73-73-74-69—289
Tim Petrovic	77-68-75-69—289
Carl Pettersson	71-75-71-72—289
Alex Cejka	72-73-71-73—289
Michael Connell	71-71-73-74—289
Fred Couples	71-73-78-68—290
J.P. Hayes	72-71-76-71—290
Brett Wetterich	73-70-76-71—290
Lucas Glover	73-68-75-74—290

John Merrick	72-72-74-73—291
Woody Austin	70-71-75-75—291
Chris Riley	71-72-73-75—291
Chris Baryla	71-73-75-73—292
D.A. Points	71-71-75-75—292
Paul Goydos	72-70-72-78—292
Simon Dyson	73-71-78-72—294
Garrett Willis	72-73-75-74—294
Rickie Fowler	72-71-76-75—294
Scott McCarron	73-73-72-76—294
Jeff Overton	76-67-73-78—294
Chris Wilson	73-73-69-79—294
Johnson Wagner	71-73-74-78—296
Scott Piercy	71-75-76-78—300

x-won on first playoff hole

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### LOCAL SCORES

#### SHIRLEY’S STANDINGS

MBI	8	1
World Resort	8	2
Aqua Resort	8	2
Mobil	7	3
TBK	6	3
Pacific Islands Club	6	3
Fiesta Resort	5	4
Shirley’s	4	4
AON/NJ Plus	4	4
Bank of Guam	3	4
McGraw-Hill	3	4
Pepsi	2	5
Docomo/SGH	0	8
Hard Rock	0	8
Cell Pro	0	9

#### LITTLE LEAGUE STANDINGS

##### Major League

Team	Win	Loss	Pct.
Ol’Aces	7	0	1.000
As Matuis Twins	6	1	0.857
Falcons	5	1	0.833
Tanapag Braves	5	1	0.833
Dragons	5	1	0.833
Red Sox	4	3	0.571
Survivors	3	3	0.500
Shell Strikers	2	4	0.333
JPO Enforcers	2	5	0.286
Kagman Lions	1	5	0.167
Century A’s	1	6	0.143
Hustlers	1	6	0.143
IT&E	1	6	0.143

##### Junior League

Patriots	7	0	1.000
Ol’Aces	6	1	0.857
Red Sox	4	2	0.667
Survivors	3	3	0.500
Fielders	2	3	0.400
TSLA’s	2	4	0.333
IT&E Northern	1	5	0.167
Kagman Lions	0	7	0.000

##### Senior League

Ol’Aces	6	1	0.857
Kagman Lions	5	2	0.714
Fielders	4	2	0.667
Hunters	3	4	0.429
Hustlers	2	5	0.286
D’9ers	0	6	0.000

##### Big League

Ol’Aces	3	2	0.600
D’9ers	3	2	0.600
Falcons	2	3	0.400
IT&E Fielders	2	3	0.400

#### LITTLE LEAGUE LEADERS

##### Major League

##### Batting

Name	Team	AB	H	Ave.
Franklin Lizama	Braves	11	10	0.909
Alden	Dragons	21	15	0.714
Cedric Camacho	JPO	17	12	0.706
Craig Aguon	Red Sox	15	10	0.667
Darion Jones	Twins	19	12	0.632
Devyn Flores	Dragons	18	11	0.611
Ian Norita	Braves	20	12	0.600
Jessie Brel	Ol’Aces	24	14	0.583
Franco Nakamura	Red Sox	12	7	0.583
Joseph Lifoifoi, Jr.	Braves	19	11	0.579
Phillip Sablan	Twins	21	12	0.571
Virolanso Secharmidal	Ol’Aces	21	12	0.571
Raymond Yamagata	Ol’Aces	14	8	0.571
Caleb Takao	Survivors	20	11	0.550
Logan Martin	Falcons	19	10	0.526

##### Homeruns

Michael Muna, Ol’Aces, 3; three others tied at 2

##### Triples

Phillip Sablan, Twins, 5  
Caleb Takao, Survivors, 4

##### Doubles

Alden Ngeskebei, Dragons, 4; six others tied at 3

##### RBIs

Devyn Flores, Dragons, 15’  
Caleb Takao, Survivors, 12  
Phillip Sablan, Twins, 12

##### Pitching

Name	Team	Inn.	ER	ERA
Melvin Sakisat	Twin	15.1	0	0.00
Terson Eina	Ol’Aces	12	0	0.00
Michael Muna	Ol’Aces	7	0	0.00
Alfonso Evangelista	Falcons	20	2	0.60
Devyn Flores	Dragons	9.2	1	0.60

##### Strikeouts

Darion Jones37, Nathan Camacho 35, Perry Celis 34, Alfonso Evangelista 30, Caleb Takao 30

##### Runs

Jessie Brel 16, Virolanso Secharmidal 15, Franklin Lizama 13



# All-Japan Pro Wrestling Hits Saipan

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



The tag team of Kondo Shuuji, left, and Suwama, right, throws Nakanoueno Yasufumi to the corner.



Taiyo Kea prepares to slam Taru to the canvas during their wrestling bout in Marpi on March 27.



Sumo wrestler Hama Ryota, left, hits Seiya Eda on the face.



Nakanoueno Yasufumi, right, arm-locks Kondo Shuuji.



The third man on the ring eyes Kono Masayuki as he pins down Kondo Shuuji.



Kondo Shuuji, Nakanoueno Yasufumi, and Suwama in action during a tag team bout.



Taiyo Kea is greeted by fans before his bout against Taru.



The more than 500-lb. sumo wrestler Akebono, left, challenge the 285-lb. Seiya Eda.



Members of the The All-Japan Pro Wrestling pose for a group photo after the show.



Taru is all set to slam Taiyo Kea on the ground.





Eagles send  
McNabb to  
Redskins  
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# Saipan Tribune Sports



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010

## Macaranas qualifies for two world championships

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

CNMI pride R.J. Macaranas will carry the Commonwealth's flag anew and line it up along with other countries that will be represented at the 2010 Callaway Junior World Golf Championships and the 2010 U.S. Kids Golf World Championship.

Macaranas qualified for the two world championship events after his good showing in the 2009 World Championship in Pinehurst, North Carolina and in the 2009 Future Champions Golf World



Championship in San Diego, California. The 10-year-old Macaranas finished fourth out of the 28 golfers who joined the tournament in California. In North Carolina, he made it to the second round after shooting a 69 in the first round.

Macaranas said he is relieved to get another invitation to these world championships, saying he does not need to join other qualifying tournaments to play in the prestigious junior events, which will be played in July.

"I feel better knowing that I can start preparing for the Junior World. Most of the junior tour members must continue

to find a way to get in. Some are traveling to Texas, Las Vegas, and up north, so I feel fortunate that I'm in now," Macaranas said.

R.J.'s father, Richard, said they received the good news on April 1 and since that day, the younger Macaranas wanted to go the greens and start his preparations for the two events.

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R.J. Macaranas, seen here teeing off in a junior tournament in California, qualified for two world championship events this year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

World Resort/Advance' Conrad Espiritu is fouled by AON's Emir Abuan during their game in the Shirley's caging on Sunday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

## World Resort, Aqua gain eighth win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

World Resort/Advance X-Terminators got the needed breaks in the homestretch to pull off a 102-98 win against AON/NJ Pro Plus during the second game in the 2nd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball



on Sunday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

The win was eighth in 10 games for World Resort, putting the team in a tie for second place with Aqua Resort Club, which clobbered Pepsi in the first game, 100-69.

The favored World Resort had a hard time thwarting AON despite the latter's depleted lineup. AON came to

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## Heo upbeat on chances in Australia



Ji Hoon Heo, seen here returning to Kirk Schuler during their men's open singles title game in the PIC netfest on Sunday on the PIC hard court, will be leaving for Australia on Thursday to compete in two Junior ITF events.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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Fresh from a title conquest in last weekend's 10th Annual PIC Tennis Championships, CNMI player Ji Hoon Heo is confident he will have a good showing

in two Junior ITF events in Brisbane, Australia this month.

Heo, who defeated former NCAA Division I player Kirk Schuler in the men's open singles finals of the PIC netfest, will leave for Australia this Thursday to compete in the 2010 Australian International Tournament and the 2010 Gallipoli Junior ITF.

See HEO on Page 26

## Lizama, Sakisat lead statistical leaders in Majors

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



The Braves' Franklin Lizama and the Twins' Melvin Sakisat are currently leading the batting and pitching races, respectively, of the Major Division of the 2010 Saipan Little League Baseball Association.

Lizama bested 14 others in the batting race with

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A Twins pitcher prepares to throw against a Survivors batter during their game in the Major League division of the 2010 Saipan Little League Baseball at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. The Twins had M.J. Sakisat and Darion Jones leading in pitching and strikeouts races, respectively.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

